

'Lebanon, not Israel, deserves aid'

BEIRUT (R) — The United States should compensate Lebanon for damage caused by invading Israeli troops using U.S.-made weapons instead of stepping up aid to Israel, a Lebanese cabinet minister said Monday. "Justice would have dictated that the aid the U.S. is generously offering Israel should go to Lebanon in reparation for war damages from both the U.S. and Israel," Education Minister Salim Hoss told Reuters. Mr. Hoss said he was offended by the Reagan administration's response to Israeli requests for extra aid "while exhibiting no real interest in Lebanon's plight." Mr. Hoss said the U.S. administration's record of support for human rights elsewhere contrasted with its failure to protest at Israel's intensive use of U.S.-supplied arms against civilians in Beirut and other Lebanese cities in 1982. Although Washington regularly denounced terrorism, it had "watched unperturbed" as Israeli troops in South Lebanon tortured prisoners, destroyed property and besieged villages, Mr. Hoss said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

Iraq, Iran lodge protests at U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Iran and Iraq have each accused the other of resuming their attacks on civilian towns, according to documents released at the United Nations Monday. The two sides in the Gulf war, now in its fifth year, agreed at the request of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar last June 12 to refrain from attacking civilian targets. Each has now accused the other of violating the accord. In a letter to Mr. Perez de Cuellar dated Feb. 9, Iran said that Iraq had conducted air attacks on civilian towns on Feb. 3 and Feb. 5. Iraq, in turn, asked the secretary-general to circulate as a Security Council document a Feb. 8 statement by the Iraqi Foreign Ministry. The ministry statement denied that Iraq had bombed Iranian civilians, and charged instead that Iran had "persisted in its aggression on Iraqi cities and their peaceful inhabitants." Iraq said its policy was not to bomb Iranian civilians "except in order to retaliate."

Volume 10 Number 2793

AMMAN, TUESDAY FEBRUARY 12, 1985, JUMADA AL OOLA 21, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Klibi sends message to Washington

TUNIS (AP) — Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi conferred with the U.S. ambassador to Tunisia on Monday and asked him to transmit a message to Washington concerning the Iran-Iraq war. Ambassador Peter Sebastian told reporters the message "related to the Arab League's pre-occupations with the Iran-Iraq war" and that he would relay the U.S. response to Mr. Klibi "as soon as possible."

Egypt reaffirms support for Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak reaffirmed in a message to Iraq's President Saddam Hussein Monday Cairo's support for Baghdad in the four-year-old Iran-Iraq war, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said. The message was conveyed verbally to President Hussein by the head of the Egyptian interests section in Baghdad in a meeting.

Grenade explodes near Israeli mission in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — A hand grenade hurled from a speeding car hit an apartment building near the Israeli embassy in Cairo, police sources said. Eyewitnesses said the blast just after midnight (2200 GMT Sunday) damaged a 12th-floor apartment, sending shards of glass flying and smashing windows of cars parked in the street below. There were no reports of casualties.

GCC-EC talks begin

BRUSSELS (AP) — The European Community opened talks Monday with the secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) on improving economic cooperation between the regions. An EC official said, Abdullah Bishara was scheduled to meet the EC's commissioner for North-South relations, Claude Cheysson of France. On Tuesday, Mr. Bishara is to see Christopher Audland, the EC's director general for energy. The meetings were designed to set the stage for a round of talks later this month in Bahrain on establishing a formal economic accord between the 10-nation EC and the six-nation Gulf group.

Tamimi urges Islamic unity

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — A personal assistant to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat said the Palestine struggle for a homeland will not succeed until Muslims worldwide unite, a report said Monday. Sheikh Rejab Al Tamimi said Sunday that disunity among Muslims has hampered the implementation of various resolutions adopted at Islamic forums, and prolonged the Palestine struggle. The National news agency Bernama reported. Sheikh Rejab, a member of the Palestine National Council, spoke at a rally in support of the PLO organised by the youth wing of the prime minister's United Malays National Organisation political party, the report said.

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Jordan, PLO agree on joint action towards peace

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) have agreed on a framework for common action towards reaching a peaceful and just settlement to the Palestinian question, it was officially announced Monday.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said that during a meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, "they agreed on a common Jordanian-Palestinian action to achieve a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem."

The news agency, which said the agreement was reached over a working lunch hosted by King Hussein, did not give any details on the agreement beyond saying that the King and the PLO leader discussed "the reality of the Palestinian situation in the occupied territories and in the international arena."

The two leaders' talks were attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Jasem, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud, Director General of the General Intelligence Department Tareq Aladeen and Royal Court Secretary-General Raja' Dajani. The PLO was represented at the talks by its Deputy Commander

Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad). Executive Committee members Abdul Razzak Al Yahya, Jawid Ghusein and Mohammad Milhem and Mr. Arafat's political counsellor Hani Al Hassan.

The announcement in Amman Monday coincided with a PLO official's statement to the Associated Press (AP) in Cairo, raising the possibility that the PLO would join Jordan and Egypt to reactivate stalled peace talks with Israel.

Palestine National Council (PNC) member Saeed Kamal told the AP in Cairo that such a three-way initiative, should it materialise, "would be supported by Saudi Arabia and some other Arab countries."

"There is a possibility for a Jordanian-Egyptian-Palestinian move supported by Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Algeria, and this support could extend to other Arab countries, not excluding Syria," Mr. Kamal said. "I believe the Palestinian leadership should formulate its own position, independently from terms laid down for a settlement by the American, Israeli and Arab sides," Mr. Kamal said. He explained that he was referring to peace proposals advanced by President Ronald Reagan and an Arab summit at Fez, Morocco, in September 1982.

At a meeting of the Palestine National Council, the PLO's parliament in exile, in Amman last November, King Hussein proposed a joint strategy based on trading territory for peace.

King Hussein said this approach should be based on U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967, which calls for Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories. The PLO rejected this resolution because it tackled the Palestinian issues as one of refugees rather than a national cause.

King Hussein and Mr. Arafat have previously called for an international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices with the participation of all parties, including the PLO, but the U.S. and Israel have rejected this idea.

In a statement he gave upon his arrival in Amman Sunday evening, Mr. Arafat denied that the PLO has rejected the King's proposal.

He said that what was carried by newspapers and news agencies on the issue was "not true. I was surprised with the news here in Amman, for no Palestinian official has given any answer to the Jordanian government," he added.

Mr. Arafat told Petra that talks with Jordan did not stop since two months and that the dialogue is continuing on all levels "and I am very optimistic."

Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said in an interview published Sunday his government's main priority was to extricate itself

from Lebanon and he pledged to persevere in seeking peace with Arab states.

In an interview with Newsweek magazine Mr. Peres said: "My government has decided to seek peace (with) the Arabs and will stick with this policy whether their reaction is gratifying to us or not."

A senior Egyptian official was quoted as saying Monday by the Jordanian Shawt Al Shaab newspaper that Egypt believes there was a possibility for movement towards peace now because of U.S. President Reagan's newly begun term of office and because of U.S.-Soviet plans to discuss the Middle East conflict. But, Dr. Osama Al Baz, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's special political advisor, told Shawt Al Shaab, without a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement "our movement will be restricted."

Dr. Baz, who visited Jordan Saturday to deliver a message from President Mubarak to King Hussein, said his trip was aimed at "crystallising a united Arab stand which may be used to press on the United States and Israel within the coming few months."

He noted that several Arab heads of state, including King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, President Mubarak and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, plan to visit the U.S. soon and said the trips "may be exploited to inform the American administration directly about the Arab attitudes."

Mr. Arafat who also met at the Guest Palace with Palestinian personalities and representatives of refugee camps in Jordan, left Amman late Monday evening, Palestinian officials said.

Israelis shoot dead 2 civilians in Sidon

SIDON, Lebanon (R) — Israeli troops Monday dismantled one of six strongpoints in preparations to leave Sidon after security sources said their patrols shot two civilians in the streets.

The sources said troops patrolling near a Palestinian refugee camp on the outskirts of this tense South Lebanese city Sunday night shot a woman who died of her wounds.

A man was injured by shots from a patrolling armoured vehicle Monday morning, they added.

As the last Israeli soldiers, estimated at about 400 men, prepared to leave Sidon by next Monday, bulldozers flattened a strongpoint controlling access to the southbound coast road and preparations began for the demolition of two others.

The withdrawal from Sidon region is the first stage of an Israeli plan to leave South Lebanon by the summer after a three-year occupation. The decision to withdraw comes after increasing resistance attacks against the Israeli occupation forces.

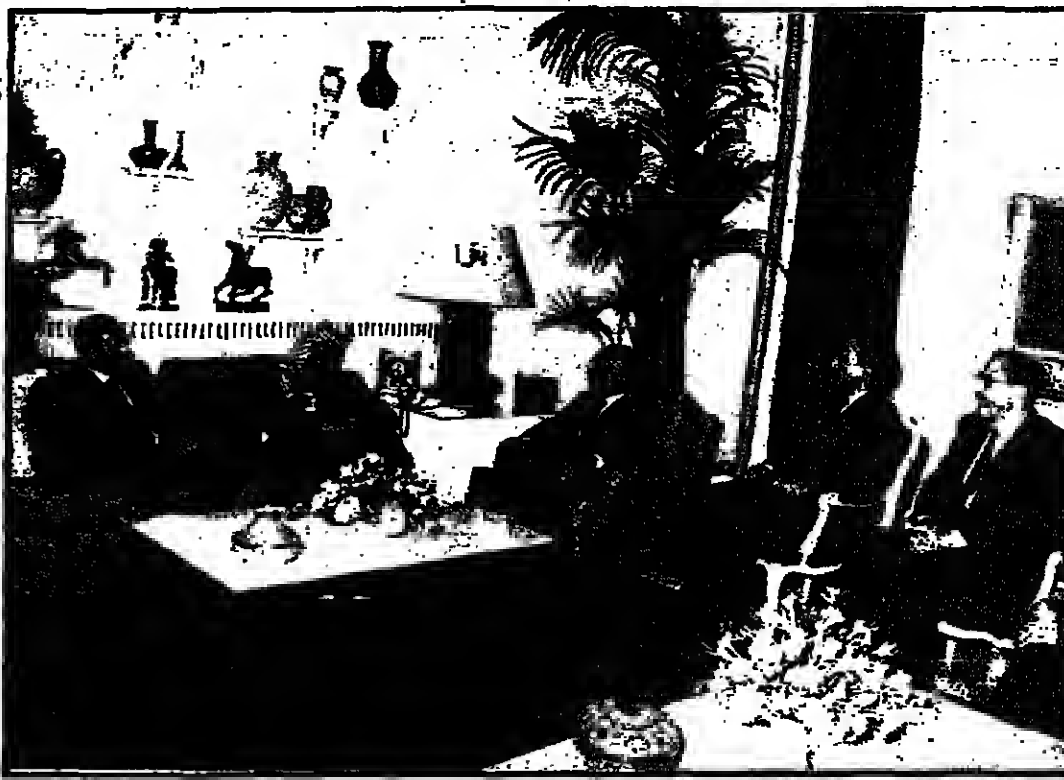
Israeli troops seeking to control attacks in the south mounted search-and-arrest operations in two villages south of the city, security sources said.

At midnight they stormed Bissariyeh and arrested about 20 young men. At dawn they raided Sakakiyeh for the second time in 24 hours and seized five residents.

An Israeli military spokesman Monday said four Israelis died in Lebanon in the previous 24 hours, the highest number for months, bringing the Israeli death toll to 616 since the 1982 invasion.

In another attack Monday, a bomb exploded near an Israeli patrol in Sidon, wounding two Israeli soldiers, eyewitnesses said. Israeli troops and SLA militiamen sprayed the area with gunfire, sending civilians running for cover.

Two Israeli soldiers were taken away in an ambulance after the blast, which also damaged a military vehicle, the witnesses said. Streets emptied and shops closed as Israeli troops sealed off roads into Sidon from the east and north.



His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Monday hold talks with Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasser Arafat at Al Nadwa Palace (Petra photo)

Israeli air attack injures 9 schoolchildren in Bekaa

TAANAYEL, Lebanon (Agencies) — Israeli jets Monday bombed a Palestinian position in a building in Syrian-controlled east Lebanon, wounding four fighters and nine schoolgirls in a nearby convent school, eyewitnesses quoted by Reuters said.

Four Israeli planes in two waves attacked through Syrian and Palestinian anti-aircraft fire and caused extensive damage, shattering windows up to 800 metres from the building. It was the second Israeli bombing raid in the area in 24 hours.

Hours after the raid time bombs were still exploding in the building and its surrounding orchard, used as a military base by Syrian-backed Palestinian fighters.

Abu Adawi, an official of the group "Fatah-the Revolt", described the base as an administrative centre and said no senior officials were in it at the time and that no fighters were killed.

"This raid has failed to achieve its objectives, namely to blunt the determination of the Palestinian and Lebanese people", he told

reporters near the scene. "Fatah-the Revolt", led by Colonel Saeed Mousa, known as Abu Mousa, split with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's mainline Fatah group in 1983.

Reporters in the area said Monday nine schoolchildren suffered minor cuts when glass in their school building in the village of Taanayel shattered from the delayed action bombs dropped by the Israeli jets.

The bombing raid, in the Bekaa Valley about 45 kilometres east of Beirut, came a day after resistance attacks in occupied South Lebanon killed three Israeli soldiers, two of whom died just north of the border in an area protected by the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon Army" militia.

Beirut radio stations said Monday's bombing raid began at about 11:45 a.m. (0945 GMT) near the town of Chitara, on the Beirut-Damascus international highway, where the Syrian army force in Lebanon has its headquarters. A Syrian communique said its

air defences fired on the attacking jets and forced them to flee.

Lebanese reporters said the two jets dropped delayed-action bombs and several of these exploded before rescue workers could move into the bombed camp about 16 kilometres west of Syria's border.

The raid was Israel's third air strike this year in Lebanon and came in the same area where a base of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, another Syrian-based PLO faction, was bombed Sunday. Witnesses said a woman and her child were killed and her husband was injured in that bombing run.

The DFLP said two of its fighters were wounded in Sunday's attack and Damascus Radio said two children were also injured in the raid.

A Syrian spokesman said Monday that for the second day running, "four enemy planes today bombed civilian houses with time bombs east of Shoura, killing many civilians, including schoolchildren."

Mideast stalemate threatens world peace, Masri tells U.S. delegation

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Monday reiterated Jordan's call for an international peace conference on the Middle East under United Nations auspices and said such a conference is the most essential medium to achieve a just and durable peace to the region. He said that to make such a conference a success all concerned parties and the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council should attend it.

During a meeting he held with a delegation of American congressmen at the World Affairs Council (WAC) here, Mr. Masri said that the current stalemate in Middle East peace efforts will drive the region to the "brink of explosion" and threaten world peace and security.

He said: "The U.S. seems serious in dealing with the Middle East problem as it has agreed to hold policy level consultations with the Soviet Union. The U.S. must focus on the Middle East problem and show sincerity in dealing with the issue in order to enhance the peace process."

He added that ignoring the problem will lead to inevitable international crises and risks.

The Arabs have always been supporting peace efforts vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict, "but the Israeli intransigence has been the stumbling block to peace efforts and aborting peace initiatives," Mr. Masri said.

He called on the U.S. congressmen to urge the Reagan administration to exert efforts on Middle East peace initiatives in order to improve U.S. credibility in the region. The delegation, which arrived



Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Monday addresses a delegation of American Congressmen currently on a visit to Jordan upon the invitation by the World Affairs Council in Amman (Petra photo)

in Amman on Sunday on an official visit sponsored by the WAC, later met Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, and held talks on various Middle East issues. Mr. Lawzi expressed hope that the delegation's visit would help adjust the American perspective of the Middle East conflict and get a better idea of the oppressive and arbitrary Israeli measures against the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and support the just principles of peace in the region.

He said Jordan seeks a durable peace through a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including East Jerusalem and support the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

Mr. Lawzi emphasised that the Palestinian problem was the core of the Middle East conflict and all that is happening in the region seems from the unresolved Palestinian question. He appealed to the delegation

to form a genuine picture of the situation in order to convey it to the American people.

Akef Al Fayed, speaker for the Lower House of Parliament, also received the U.S. delegation Monday and briefed them Israel's arbitrary measures against West Bank and Gaza citizens, including deportations and confiscation of land and property.

Since the U.S. is the main supporter for Israel, politically, financially and militarily, it also bears the international responsibility to seek just peace in the Middle East. Mr. Fayed told the American congressmen.

The four congressmen, Democrats and Republicans, expressed deep understanding of Jordan's perspective of the Middle East conflict and the information given to them during their talks with Mr. Masri, Mr. Lawzi and Mr. Fayed.

The delegation, which is due to meet His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday, will also visit the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

18 RAF men die in inferno

MUNICH (AP) — A bus carrying 38 members of a British Royal Air Force band ran into the back of a fuel tanker truck on a freeway Monday, and at least 18 people burned to death, police said.

The double-decker bus apparently skidded on aircraft fuel leaking from the tanker truck's rear, igniting an inferno, Bavarian police said. The flames quickly engulfed the bus, trapping many inside.

The number of injured in the accident could not be immediately determined. The flames gutted the bus.

Police said there were 39 aboard the bus, including the West German driver.

Bavarian authorities said the accident occurred about 30 kilometres north of Munich as the bus was heading south on a heavily-travelled stretch of autobahn.

State police said the British band was stationed in Viersen, West Germany.

Israel orders probe into deputies-Arafat meeting

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's attorney general Monday ordered an investigation to determine whether leftist parliamentarians could be prosecuted for meeting Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat, a Justice Ministry spokesman said.

Parliamentarians Mohammad Miari and Mutiyahu Peled and four other members of the Jewish-Arab Progressive List for Peace returned Sunday from a meeting with Mr. Arafat in Tunisia.

Israeli law forbids contact with "foreign agents" and provides for a maximum penalty of 15 years imprisonment.

The spokesman said the six could be prosecuted "unless there is a reasonable explanation for the conduct or proof that there was no intent to harm security."

One of the six, former parliamentarian and magazine publisher Uri Avnery, met Mr. Arafat in Beirut in 1982 during Israel's

seige of the city. He was denounced for the meeting, but an investigation found no cause to press charges.

The parliamentarians said Mr. Arafat promised them information within several days on the fate of Israeli soldiers missing in Lebanon.

Simcha Dinitz, a former ambassador to Washington, and a close aide of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, condemned the meeting of the deputies with Mr. Arafat.

He said the meeting "undermined" Israeli attempts to prevent U.S. congressmen from meeting with PLO officials. Israel Radio reported.

The daily Maariv reported Sunday that PLO United Nations representative Mehdi Terzi had been invited to speak before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

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Militias are robbing Lebanon, Karami says

BEIRUT (R) — Prime Minister Rashid Karami has blamed sectarian militias for Lebanon's economic and political crisis, saying they were robbing the state and the people and blocking efforts to end anarchy.

In his bitter comments since taking office last April, the Sunni Muslim premier blamed the "present anarchy" and the crash of the Lebanese pound equally on Muslim, Druze and Christian militias. "They are all the same types," he said.

Mr. Karami's remarks were made Sunday in the northern city of Tripoli and published Monday. Before taking office he was allied with Druze and opposition forces against President Amin Gemayel. But his bitter tone, in sharp contrast to his usual optimism, echoed an attack by Mr. Gemayel on the militias Sunday that was only partly denied by officials after publication.

Both men expressed intense frustration at a worsening economic and financial crisis, while the "national unity" cabinet was paralysed by disputes between Muslim, Druze and Christian ministers representing the militias.

In the past six weeks the Lebanese pound has fallen from nine

to the dollar to 14.40 amid warnings of impending catastrophe and apparent government paralysis (see story page 7).

Lashing out at militias and their representatives in the cabinet, Mr. Karami asked: "Why do those who demand that the authorities assume their responsibilities continue to pillage the public treasury?"

Referring to complaints that the state was not providing social services, he said militias robbing the treasury were welcome to provide people with medical care, road repairs and power supplies if they wished.

"But it is absurd that they lay hands on money to buy arms and cause more destruction and ruin, while demanding social services from the state," Mr. Karami declared.

The treasury was receiving only one-tenth of customs dues from ports, Mr. Karami said. "Where are the other 2.7 billion pounds

going? In the pockets of the militias, who are all the same types," he added.

Mr. Gemayel said Sunday state income from customs, utility payments and fuel taxes was being siphoned off by militias or was uncollectable because of anarchy in opposition-controlled West Beirut and militia control of other areas.

Rapping ministers for "lacking the courage" to end the anarchy, Mr. Gemayel answered charges that he had ruined Lebanon with big U.S. arms purchases by saying his accusers could easily stop the present drain on state funds and restore the pound to health.

Mr. Karami bitterly blamed the militias for their "appetite for illegal enrichment" as well as "hostage-taking for ransom, the illegal ports, the illegal taxes, the destruction of industry and agriculture."

He criticised militia leaders in the government for failing to agree on a joint plan to restore security and state authority — "the only substitute for the present anarchy."

"How can they ask the state to resolve all the problems when they prevent it from acting?" Mr. Karami asked.



Syrian residents in Libya cast their ballots for the referendum for the re-election of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. The president was re-elected to his third seven-year term in office (AP wirephoto)

99.97 per cent vote 'yes' for Assad

DAMASCUS (R) — Hafez Al Assad has won a third seven-year term as Syria's president with 99.97 per cent of the votes cast in Sunday's election, Interior Minister Nasseriddin Nasser said Monday.

Mr. Assad, president since 1971 following a bloodless coup five months earlier, was the only candidate. His new term starts on March 13.

Mr. Nasser told a news conference that 6.52 million of the country's 6.56 million eligible voters took part in the poll, with only 376 "no" and 1,458 invalid ballots.

He said the result now would be sent to the speaker of the People's Council (Parliament), Mahmoud Al Zu'bi.

Mr. Assad, 54, has weathered opposition at home, a stagnant economy and military reverses to hold power longer than any other leader since Syria gained independence in 1946.

Addressing cheering supporters Sunday, Mr. Assad said: "our people will continue to raise the sword of struggle against all forms of aggression, greed and invasion ... and combat backwardness until Arab rights are restored."

King Fahd begins official visit to U.S.

WASHINGTON (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia was expected to call for renewed U.S. efforts towards a Middle East peace settlement during his meeting with President Reagan.

King Fahd, who was greeted by Secretary of State George Shultz on his arrival Sunday, was also expected to ask Mr. Reagan for assurances that congressional opposition to the sale of F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia will soon be overcome.

The Reagan administration said last month that all arms sales to Arab Nations had been suspended pending a study of the area's security needs, but U.S. officials say the sale will be pushed through this year.

The key issue on King Fahd's agenda, however, is likely to be the stalled Middle East peace process and Saudi Arabia's request that the United States resume an active role in seeking a regional settlement.

U.S. officials said last week Washington was reluctant to take on a more dominant role until agreement is reached to hold direct negotiations between Israel and the Arabs.

King Fahd met Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and consulted Syria, Jordan and other Arab states in preparation for the Washington trip — the first state visit of Saudi monarch to Washington in 14 years.

Washington wants Jordan to represent the Palestinians in negotiating with Israel, but talks between Jordan and the PLO have so far produced no results.

"I think King Fahd will probably leave Washington with a visit that was heavy on symbolism, some preliminary discussions about Middle East issues but no decisive decisions made," said William Quandt, a former National Security Council official and Middle East expert.

"They'll certainly tell Fahd that at present the United States is not ready to do anything in the absence of a much more credible Jordanian-Palestinian commitment to negotiations," Mr. Quandt said in a television interview.

King Fahd, the first of several Middle East leaders scheduled to visit Washington in coming months, may also propose a \$400-billion aid package for the Middle East in talks with U.S. officials during his five-day stay. Newsweek magazine reported.

The magazine said the package would be financed by the United

States, West Europe and Arab oil states and would benefit Egypt, Syria, Jordan, the Palestinians and Israel.

Meanwhile Arab commentators agreed Monday that King Fahd's current visit to Washington was crucial to the revival of the Middle East peace process.

Most said it was up to the United States and President Reagan to take the lead in reviving peace efforts, but some doubted the visit would result in a change of U.S. policies.

The Saudi Gazette newspaper of Jeddah said the visit would test the Arab's assumption that "a re-elected U.S. president can, if he chooses, seek a comprehensive and just peace settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict."

It added: "However, deep scepticism and doubt will linger on and even those who speak enthusiastically about a year of opportunity counsel caution."

The Kuwait Times newspaper said Mr. Reagan could no longer afford "to ignore the need to enlist Arab support for his efforts towards peace and justice in the Middle East."

But Kuwait's Al Rai Al Aam said: "Reagan will not be any different in his second term ... America wants what Israel wants."

Al Bayan newspaper of Dubai said nobody disputed that only the United States could pressure Israel into agreeing to a settlement. "But Reagan has to get rid of his bias towards Israel and listen well to the Arab viewpoint," it said.

The Lebanese newspaper Al Liwa said: "It is time the United States gave in to the logical need to reconsider its strategic policy ... the importance of the Saudi monarch's visit is to raise the status of the Arab bloc and to get America to recognise the failure of its plan for the Middle East."

This was a reference to the Reagan plan of September 1982, which called for a Palestinian homeland on the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan, but ignored Arab demands for a Palestinian state.

The Saudi newspaper Al Naba said that for U.S.-Saudi relations to continue to prosper, "solutions to the problems in the region, such as the Palestinian problem, are needed."

In Muscat, the government newspaper Oman said King Fahd's trip could lead to "more effective steps to crystallise the Arab vision and effort to promote peace moves in the Middle East."

Israel launches campaign to appoint 4 Palestinian mayors in West Bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Israeli occupation authorities have launched a campaign to appoint Palestinian mayors in the occupied West Bank and have already asked four Palestinians to take over as mayors of Nablus, Ramallah, Al Bireh and Hebron, according to reports reaching here from the occupied territories.

Quoting Israeli and Arab sources in the West Bank, the Associated Press said the Israeli move was based on the contention that it will "create an improved climate for 'peace' and satisfy demands from the U.S. and Egypt that Israel 'improve the quality of life' for the Palestinians living under the Israeli occupation."

Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij, the only mayor of a West Bank city not deposited by the Israelis, is involved in negotiations between the Israeli authorities and prospective candidates for the jobs, the Associated Press said. It quoted

Mr. Freij as saying he has been holding talks inside and outside the West Bank and the outcome of the discussions were "very favourable."

The news agency also said Basil Kanaan, 48, of Nablus, the West Bank's largest city, as saying that he had agreed conditionally to head the town council but negotiations were continuing.

Mr. Kanaan, a businessman whose father was mayor from 1964 to 1969, said the main point of contention was a demand to broaden the Israeli offer to encompass four other cities.

Mr. Kanaan said he wanted Israel to name a Palestinian mayor for the village of Anabta, which has none, and replace three other Israeli-appointed Palestinian mayors in Jenin, Qalqilya and Dura who were viewed as being too closely tied to the Israeli occupation authorities.

The names of the other pro-

spective appointees were not known but Israeli officials described them all as "moderates."

Israeli officials said Israel was waiting for final approval from all four prospective appointees to make an announcement.

One danger was that new mayors might be accused of collaboration with Israel's occupation, creating more tensions and undermining Israel's goal of furthering peace prospects.

Israeli officials said the search for candidates began under the previous government led by the right-wing Likud Bloc, indicating that the idea had wide political support in Israel.

The four Palestinians now under consideration were approached last autumn shortly after the new government was formed under Prime Minister Shimon Peres of the Labour Party. They said,

Numeiri critic back in jail, exiles say

GENEVA (R) — A Sudanese opponent of President Jaafar Numeiri who was reprieved from a sentence of death last month after repenting has been re-arrested, an official of a Sudanese exile group said here Monday.

Shawqi Mallassi, secretary-general of Amnesty Sudan, told a news conference that Abdul Latif Ibrahim had been sent back to jail because Mr. Numeiri did not like statements he made on television after his reprieve.

Mr. Ibrahim was one of four followers of moderate leader Mahmoud Mohammed Taha who were sentenced to death but later reprieved after repenting following the public hanging of Taha on Jan. 18. Taha was convicted of heresy and provoking opposition to the government.

Mr. Mallassi said his organisation was appealing to humanitarian bodies to help halt executions and torture in Sudan, where some 700 political prisoners were held at present.

He said a trial was now under way of four members of the banned Sudanese branch of the Arab Baath Socialist Party on charges carrying the death penalty.

Kuwaiti envoy delivers message to Iraqi leader

KUWAIT (AP) — The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah dispatched a ranking official Monday to Baghdad with a message for the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

The Emir's advisor, Abdul Rahman Al Atiqi, was the second envoy to be sent by Kuwait to the Iraqi capital in 24 hours.

On Sunday, the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah also sent the director of his office, Isa Al Shaheen with a message to the Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. This followed a meeting Sheikh Sabah had with the Iraqi ambassador here.

There have been no disclosures on the contents of either message. But Arab diplomatic sources said the intensification of contacts between Kuwait and Iraq were aimed at bringing the 52-month-old Gulf war to a halt.

These sources, who refused to be identified, speculated that Kuwait was trying to arrange a meeting between Tariq Aziz and his Syrian counterpart, Farouk Al Sharaa, as a first step toward ending the Gulf war.

Syria and Iraq are ruled by rival wings of the Baath Socialist Party, and Syria allied itself with Tehran after the Gulf war broke out by closing the pipeline that channelled Iraq's vital crude oil exports to the Mediterranean through Syrian territory.

Cyprus talks could resume in March, U.N. chief says

WELLINGTON (R) — Talks between Greek and Turkish community leaders on the future of Cyprus could resume next month, United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Monday.

He also told reporters the situation in the divided island was at

least moving in the right direction.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said last month's New York meeting between Cyprus President Spyros Kyprianou and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş had not been as disappointing as many had claimed since it had brought the leaders together and produced a commitment to meet again.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:00 Koran
17:10 Cartoons
17:30 Children programmes
18:15 Drama Centre
19:00 Local Programme
19:30 Programme Review
19:35 News Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:00 News Summary
21:30 Varieties Program
23:00 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

17:30 German Programme for Children
18:00 Des givres aux Loubs
19:00 News in French
19:15 News in Arabic
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Star of the Family
21:18 News in Arabic
22:00 News in Arabic
22:15 Heidegger and McCormick

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM
and partly on 9560 KHz. SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News Desk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
10:00 Morning Show Cont.
11:00 Pop Session Cont.
11:30 News Summary
12:00 Pop Session Cont.
12:30 News Summary
13:00 Pop Session Cont.
13:30 News Bulletin
14:15 Country Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Pop Session
17:30 News Summary
18:00 News Summary
18:30 Evening Show Cont.
19:00 News Summary
19:30 Evening Show Cont.
20:00 News Summary
20:30 Evening Show Cont.
21:00 News Headlines
21:30 Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz.

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 The Classical
Guitar 06:45 Financial News 06:55
Reflections 07:00 World News 07:20
24 Hours News Summary 07:30 News
07:40 Book Choice 07:45 The World
Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Rock
Salad 09:00 World News 09:20 24
Hours News Summary 09:30 Seven
Wonders of the Modern World 09:40
News about Britain 10:15 Letter from
London 10:30 Scotland this Week 10:30
Sports International 10:40 World News
10:45 Sports Round-up 10:50 World
News 10:55 24 Hours News Summary
11:00 World News 11:05 British Press
Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30
Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead
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followed by Discovery 12:30 Wives and
Daughters 12:40 World News 12:50
News about Britain 13:15 Letter from
London 13:25 Scotland this Week 13:30
Sports International 14:00 World News
14:15 Foreign Correspondents
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22:05 Sports

WAJ to float tenders worth JD 5.5m in early 1986

AMMAN (Petra) — Tenders worth a total of JD 5.5 million will be floated at the beginning of 1986 for the construction of sewerage systems and wastewater treatment plants in the towns of Azraq, Sukhneh, Na'ur, Mahes and Fuhais.

Mr. Keilani said that these studies will be ready within 6 to 12 months.

He added that these projects were given priority for the protection of water resources because of underground water basins and reserves located near those towns and villages. The project is part of a WAJ policy to protect underground water reserves from pollution.

Mr. Keilani was speaking after the signing of several contracts worth a total of JD 160,000 with a number of local consultants and local-foreign joint ventures for the preparation of studies and designs for sewerage systems and was-

water treatment plants in the towns of Azraq, Sukhneh, Na'ur, Mahes and Fuhais.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Committee to prepare 5-year plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Preparations for the drafting of the National Five-Year Development Plan 1986-1990 will be enhanced in the next two weeks by the formation of the plan's general committee under the chairmanship of Minister of Planning Abdullah Nsour. Dr. Nsour and a number of ministerial under secretaries and directors of certain departments will form the committee. After the forming of the committee, a working group will be set up to schedule the drafting of the plan.

Cabinet exempts donations from tax

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet has decided to exempt all donations offered by Jordanian companies, organisations and individuals to Jordanian sports federations from income tax. In appreciation of this decision, Ministry of Youth Hani Khasawneh has sent Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat message praising the decision which reflects the government's concern for the International Year of Youth.

Dead Sea to have tourist complex

AMMAN (Petra) — A complete touristic complex will be built on the shores of the Dead Sea, according to a source at the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities. The source said the government's interest in the project is part of attempts to develop the Jordan Valley and to exploit the Dead Sea for tourism and therapeutic treatments. The source added that the complex will include a large hotel, a housing area of 300 different sized villas, swimming pools, children's playgrounds, a small hotel, a bird garden, a commercial complex and sports playgrounds.

Arar meets Madaba officials today

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sulaiman Arar will visit Madaba Tuesday to attend a meeting of representatives of the public and private sectors in Madaba district. He will discuss with these representatives the needs of citizens in the district. The minister will also formally open the new civil defence centre in Dhiban.

Exports rise, imports fall in 1984

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's total national exports for 1984 amounted to JD 253 million, an increase of 58% over 1983 exports, according to a report issued by the Department of Statistics. The report said that imports of foreign goods amounted to JD 1,049 million in 1984, a decrease of 5% compared to 1983 imports.

Djibouti trade team due in March

AMMAN (Petra) — A trade and economic delegation from Djibouti is due here by the middle of March to hold talks on promoting trade with Jordan. The delegation, to be led by Djibouti's trade minister, is expected to hold talks with Minister of Industry and Trade Jawad Al Anani and other officials.

Fahd urges support of Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Reagan told King Fahd during his visit to the Middle East "will require courage, integrity and wisdom." The president said King Fahd and his predecessors had shown such traits. "Together our considerable influence and moral suasion can decrease the threat of war," Mr. Reagan said.

"If the Saudi and American governments focus their energies, progress can be made, especially in the lingering dispute between Israel and her neighbours," he said.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in a television interview on Monday said that the high-level meetings this week with King Fahd are not for negotiations but to raise "the level of understanding."

Asked on the NBC Television News Show Monday if the United States is prepared to sell Saudi Arabia more arms and make a greater commitment to the Middle East peace process, Mr. Shultz replied:

"I think we will be talking with him about the whole strategic situation in the Mideast and certainly about the peace process. We're in the process ourselves of reviewing how we think level of armaments in various countries is shaping up and how it might change as our analysis of the strategic situation shows it should."

"So, we're not in this meeting going to be negotiating things but, rather, sharing information and raising the level of understanding. King Fahd said to me yesterday, he said I come not as a negotiator but as a friend and, so, in that spirit our object will be to raise the level of understanding on both sides."

Mr. Shultz denied that the United States was on the sidelines in the Middle East peace process. He said: "We're very active, but people equate the Middle East peace process with a drama of somebody flying around, getting on and off airplanes and so on. Right now, I think the right stage is to be building the blocks that are necessary to put in place for an active neg-

otiation to take place, whether that be in Israel or whether it be in the Arab states."

"After all, (if) we're going to get someplace in the peace process an Arab negotiator has to sit down with an Israeli negotiator and try to work out answers. That's the name of the game — to bring that kind of negotiation about."

"If the Saudi and American governments focus their energies, progress can be made, especially in the lingering dispute between Israel and her neighbours," he said.

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His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday presents certificates to Arab and Jordanian pilots who have completed aviation training courses (Petra photo)

Abdul Jaber tours welfare centres, voluntary institutions for the needy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Tayseer Abdul Jaber Monday continued his visits to a number of social centres and institutions to investigate and acquaint himself with their achievements and status and to explore the possibility of further developing these centres.

His visits included tours of the Queen Alia Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Hearing-Impaired, the Society for the Welfare of Orphans, the Child Care Centre and the building of the Children of Martyrs School.

At the Queen Alia Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Hearing-Impaired, the minister met with the centre's management and Italian Ambassador in Amman Rossi Longhi. The Italian government provided the centre with equipment, facilities and experts in accordance with a bilateral technical exchange agreement between Italy and Jordan.

Latest equipment
The centre's president, Mrs.

Hanan Babaouddin Tougan, explained the centre's aims and the services it provides to hearing-impaired children. She also explained the uses of the latest equipment in the field of hearing used at the centre and the centre's ambition to build a large medical centre for the care and rehabilitation of the hearing-impaired on an 18-dunum piece of land donated by His Majesty King Hussein.

Mrs. Tougan also outlined the centre's services which include hearing tests for children and adults, vocal training, the installation and maintenance of hearing aids, brain scan tests and the provision of suitably-priced hearing aids for the needy.

She added that the centre is always open to provide help to any individual, society or centre of the private or public sectors.

Dr. Abdul Jaber said that his ministry appreciates such voluntary efforts and will provide all possible help to enable the centre to fulfil its aims. He added that the

ministry will also use the centre's facilities and will send ministry trainees to the centre for training.

At the society for the welfare of orphans, which is being equipped for the teaching and rehabilitation of 200 orphans, the minister met with the society's administration and staff.

The society president, Mrs. Suad Khalaf, briefed the minister on the objectives of the society and its role in the care for orphans.

Orphan's centre

At the child care centre, which belongs to the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and which accommodates 50 orphans up to the age of 18, the minister was briefed on the centre's activities and was asked to help expand the centre.

At the new building of the Martyrs Children's School, which was partially financed by the Libyan Society of Islamic Dawa, the minister was briefed by Mr. Yousef Madi, a Libyan who contributed the land on which the school is built. Mr. Madi explained to Dr. Abdul Jaber the layout of the school which will take 1,000 students whose fathers or mothers were martyrs.

Dr. Abdul Jaber expressed his appreciation to the Libyan donors and revealed that the school will be named after Libyan Martyr Omar Al Mukhtar.

Major industries explore new market outlets

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan plans to dispatch official delegations to countries which offer suitable markets for Jordanian phosphates, potash and fertilisers with the purpose of promoting sales. This was agreed upon during a meeting grouping representatives of these industries and presided over by Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat.

During the meeting, a general review was made of policies for production and marketing products made by the three industries in 1985, with particular attention to ways of expanding markets abroad and opening new outlets.

Agreement was reached on coordinating government efforts with those of the Jordan Fertiliser Industry Company in Aqaba, the Arab Potash Company and the Jordan Phosphates Mines Company with the purpose of promoting sales through trade agreements with other countries and adopting a policy by which Jordan will import more from those nations which buy the Kingdom's products.

Trade attaches

The participants in the meeting, all members of a committee set up to achieve coordination among the three industries, discussed appointing trade attaches at Jordanian embassies abroad with the purpose of promoting trade relations with other countries and to help market Jordan's products. Also, plans for building a modern railway to help speed transportation of products to Aqaba for export were discussed.

The prime minister reaffirmed the government's policy that calls on the management of these three industries to transfer their offices to the production sites; a policy, which he said, is designed to boost social and economic progress in the different parts of Jordan.

At the meeting the committee members also discussed areas where their companies can participate in projects in cooperation with the private sector.

Photographic exhibition of Jerusalem captures the Arab identity, atmosphere

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Opening at the Royal Cultural Centre Tuesday, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, is an exhibition of recent photographs of Jerusalem and other Palestinian cities. Taken last Spring by Majed Khatib, a professional photographer who lives

and works in Jerusalem, the exhibition has been arranged by the Jerusalem Charitable Society and all the proceeds from the sale of the photographs will go towards the many projects aimed at helping orphans and poorer families based here in Amman.

The photographs, which for the most part depict familiar views of the old city, the focal point of many being the glittering sunlit

dome of the Dome of the Rock, have been extremely well taken and printed, the large clear images (sizes go up to an impressive 240 x 70 cm) and true colours revealing all the details and some of the atmosphere. This latter sense of place is due mainly to the fact that many of the scenes are peopled not with tourists and foreigners but with Arabs, the Palestinians who live and work in the city, who give the city its reality, its raison d'être.

Souk scenes

Especially good from this point of view are Khatib's shots of the narrow streets full of Palestinian men and women in their traditional dress, caught unawares as they move about their business. The souk scenes with the colourful dresses of the women complementing the baskets and boxes of purple plums, dark green herbs and young courgettes laid out in front of them and by the bustling crowds of shoppers are especially evocative and vibrant.

The interior shots of the Dome of the Rock, where the light comes shimmering through the beautiful stained glass windows to impart a sombre glow within, and of the Al Julial Church inside the Holy Sepulchre which is a mass of golden details, are also visual delights.

With prices starting at JD 15 the photographs are reasonably priced. The exhibition runs until Friday Feb. 15.



Photograph by Majed Khatib showing the Dome of the Rock, the Minaret of Bab Al-Ghawanmeih Mosque and the dome of the Church of Christ Prison. This is just one of the 75 photographs of Jerusalem and Palestine on show at the Royal Cultural Centre.

18 Arab, Jordanian officers complete RJAC course

Hassan graduates pilots, calls for qualitative work in all development fields

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday deputed His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to patronise a graduation ceremony for Jordanian and Arab pilots from the Royal Jordanian Air Academy (RJAC).

Alia pilots.

No accidents

He added that the academy has carried 6,000 flying hours without any accident, which is a world record when compared to other academies of its kind.

Mr. Qandah added that one of the future aspirations of the academy is to transform the present Amman Airport into an Arab air academy. He said that the proposed academy has been approved by six Arab countries and would be the nucleus for an Arab aviation university.

At the end of the ceremony, Prince Hassan awarded the 18 graduates with their certificates and tokens presents.

The ceremony was attended by the Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Ibrahim Shuja Sultan, Alia President Mahmoud Jamal Balqaz, Arab Wings Director General Sherif Ghazi Rakan Nassir, officials from the Ministry of Transport, Alia and the Civil Aviation Authority and officials from the Iraqi embassy.

In a speech on the occasion, Prince Hassan conveyed His Majesty King Hussein's greetings to all the officials and supervisors of the academy. He called for more qualitative work, not only in the aviation field but in all other fields of development in the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan expressed hope that Arab men will rise to the challenges initiated by the developments of modern civilisation. He said: "The experience resulted in bringing Arab youth together, served as an opportunity of an open door on other academies and is the basis for the foundation of an Arab air academy."

Prince Hassan said that the RJAC is the pride of not only Jordanians but of all the Arab countries as it is the only such institute in the Middle East which graduates Jordanian and Arab pilots and the only one in the world where no accident has ever occurred.

The chairman of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, Mr. Ali Ghandour, also spoke on the occasion and praised His Majesty King Hussein's continued support for the academy.

Mr. Ghandour said that the training course, which is attended by students from other Arab countries, is a pointer to the strong relations binding Jordan to its brotherly Arabs.

The director of the academy Issa Qandah said in his speech that the graduates have studied for 18 months and taken subjects pertaining to the international rules and regulations of aviation. The courses, he added, qualify them for the commercial pilot certificate.

He said that the academy offers basic pilot training, refresher courses for holders of foreign pilot licences and refresher courses for

AAU establishes fund to support Arab universities in the occupied territories

Arab atlas

AMMAN (Petra) — The Association of Arab Universities (AAU) has established a special fund for supporting universities in the occupied Arab territories. The AAU also continues to exert efforts at the regional and international levels to expose Israel's ill practices against the Arab inhabitants and to enlist world pressure to bear on the Zionists to halt arbitrary measures against Arab universities.

This was announced here Monday by AAU Acting Secretary General Mohammad Dugheim who said that Arab universities in the occupied lands have all been accepted as AAU members to help their staff and students improve their status and to acquire support and recognition by all

Arab countries. Dr. Dugheim said that AAU also helps these universities by loaning members to work with their staff or pay salaries of staff members appointed by the respective universities.

At its fifth conference, due to open in Aden on Feb. 16, the AAU will discuss the role of higher education in comprehensive development and will review AAU's programmes for the coming three years, Dr. Dugheim said.

On the subject of appointing a secretary general for the AAU, he said that Arab countries have nominated 11 personalities for the posts of secretary general and assistant secretary general and that elections will be held when all nominations have been received by the AAU secretariat.

Referring to the preparation of a general Arab atlas, Dr. Dugheim said that work has been divided into three stages for producing the projected atlas and it is hoped that sufficient funds will be available for completing the project by 1989.

The AAU, which was established in Cairo in 1969, was transferred to Baghdad in 1979 and then had its headquarters briefly in Riyadh until agreement was reached last year to transfer AAU's permanent headquarters to Amman. The AAU groups 53 Arab universities and coordinates activities in educational and cultural affairs with Arab universities.

MOSCOW

Another Super Power on our network soon



Alia, The Royal Jordanian Airline

Alia



This is a peace-seeker?

TRY AS we might, we find it difficult to make sense of the policy of the present Israeli government, particularly of its Labour half. Prime Minister Shimon Peres said in an interview earlier this week that his government's main priority after the withdrawal from Lebanon was "to seek peace with the Arabs". But then, if the Israeli government is so keen on seeking peace, why does it vehemently oppose several ongoing attempts to bring the key Arab party — the Palestinians — into the peace-making picture?

Israeli Defence Minister Rabin has charged at least twice a day during the past month that the PLO is re-establishing its headquarters in Amman to direct anti-Israeli resistance in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, and he and his premier have advised Jordan to drop the idea of working out a joint peace strategy with the PLO.

When a delegation of Israelis and Arabs from within Israel travelled to Tunis to meet with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, and came back to report that he favoured holding an international peace conference under United Nations auspices, with the participation of Israel and the PLO, the government of Israel showed its displeasure.

If the Israeli government gives such high priority to peace with the Arabs, why does it ignore such potentially important gestures from Mr. Arafat and insist only on its own demand for bilateral talks with Jordan, Lebanon and others? What do all these Israeli positions really mean?

There are too many indications of a lack of Israeli seriousness about talking peace with the Arabs for us to take seriously the Israeli leadership's words about seeking peace.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIAL

Al Ra'i: Washington visits' outcome

KING FAHD of Saudi Arabia has started a visit to the United States, the first by an Arab head of state to America since President Reagan started his second term in office. The visit takes place amidst reports of an escalated resistance activity in South Lebanon and throughout the occupied Arab territories against Israeli atrocities and malpractices.

No doubt, these topics will be on the agenda of the two leaders, and the visit will therefore set the course for future U.S.-Arab relations and will help the Arabs define their position vis-a-vis Washington, which has been totally biased against the Arabs, supporting the aggressor.

King Fahd will be followed to Washington by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who will also discuss Arab-Israeli issues and the situation in the Middle East. No doubt, both leaders will be discussing America's stand and would urge it to adopt a more reasonable and balanced position with regard to the Middle East question, to help establish a durable and just peace. The two leaders will certainly repeat to the Reagan administration that it is Washington's unlimited support and financial assistance to the Israelis that is making them intransigent and systematically aggressive against the Arabs and reject all bids for the establishment of peace.

Our cause is just and our rights need no more explanation to the Americans. The success of the two leaders' talks in Washington depends on the latter's determination to put into practice the principles and justice which the American nation believes in and respects.

Al Dustour: More massacres possible

A WEEK before the date given by Israel for pulling out its forces from southern Lebanon, attention is being focused on Palestinian refugee camps and the fate of their residents. These residents are now exposed to new tragedies and massacres unless the United Nations and the other Arab countries in the region take speedy action to prevent them.

We warn of the danger now because Israel has threatened to lay obstacles in the path of Lebanese Army, deployment in the South so as to make things difficult for the Lebanese government and show to the world that Israeli forces had been there to protect the civilians.

The Sabra and Shatila camps massacres are still live in our memories, and it is feared that the Israeli conspiracies will entail more such crimes in South Lebanon. The United Nations forces in South Lebanon are urgently needed now to give protection to the civilians and the residents of the camps in view of the heavy responsibility of the Lebanese government which is now faced with the continuous factional clashes every where else in the country.

In the event the Lebanese Army cannot deploy its troops in the South, the only other alternative is to employ U.N. forces for giving protection to the people there.

Sawt Al Shaab: Inter-Lebanese fighting serves Israel

THE RENEWAL of clashes among warring factions in Lebanon and the growing tension in and around Beirut indicate that the conspiracy against this Arab country is returning and the people of Lebanon are in for another destructive round of aimless and horrible fighting among themselves.

The clashes which occurred over the past few days in the mountains, in Tripoli and Sidon coincide with the Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon and prove that the enemies of the Arabs are continually busy trying to destroy Lebanon for ever. Prime Minister Rashid Karami has recently warned against those hands now working behind the scenes and trying to hatch new conspiracies and to cause further destruction. He warned against all moves directed against the legitimate government in Beirut and designed to help the Israeli enemy to divide the country and make Lebanon lose its independence.

The leaders of the Lebanese factions and communities have their share in the responsibility because they can control their militia and order their men to desist from escalating the fighting. Israel is of course interested to see Lebanon divided into mini states, but the Lebanese leaders are to blame if they allow the enemy to achieve his objectives in their country.

April and the 242 blues

By Rami G. Khouri

THE RETURN of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to Amman this week will heighten interest in whether or not Jordan and the PLO can reach agreement on a joint programme of action to unlock stalled Arab-Israeli peace-making efforts. The fact is, the PLO is going slow on responding to the November speech and proposals of King Hussein to the Palestine National Council (PNC) session; if a joint Palestinian-Jordanian position materialises, it will take quite some time to do so. On the surface, the matter seems rather straightforward: Jordan and the PLO should work out a joint position that is based on existing pan-Arab resolutions, and international legal principles and United Nations resolutions, aiming to engage Israel in a peace negotiation.

I think the matter is considerably more complex than it seems, and I suspect it is made more complicated by the rigid political action principles and psychological perceptions of both sides. The sticking point seems to be United Nations Resolution 242, which, among other things, calls for "achieving a just settlement of the refugee problem" and "termination of all claims or states of belligerence and respect for and acknowledgement of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every state in the area and their right to live in peace within secure and recognised boundaries free from threats or acts of force".

Jordan insists vehemently on Resolution 242 as the essential basis for Jordanian-Palestinian and pan-Arab action, because the resolution is internationally accepted. The PLO refuses to give 242 such a prominent role because the resolution only refers to "the refugee problem", and does not call for the Palestinians' right to national self-determination.

Both Jordan and the PLO have some validity in their arguments, but I also think that both are exaggerating the importance of the points they emphasise. If this process continues for very much longer, we shall soon have a replay of April 1983, when Jordan and the PLO could not agree on a joint political action programme, and suspended talks between them for many months.

Let us go back a moment to the speech of King Hussein to the PNC. His words were: "The existing facts in the Palestinian, Arab and international arenas require us to adhere to Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for a just, peaceful settlement. The principle of 'territory for peace' is the landmark which should guide us in any initiative

we present to the world. This principle is not a precondition, but a framework within which negotiations will be carried out." It seems quite clear to me that what King Hussein is stressing here is the principle of 'territory for peace' that is enshrined in resolution 242. The PLO accepted that principle many years ago. By accepting the Fez summit resolutions, and calling for the right to self-determination, statehood and confederal ties with Jordan (after a self-determinant Palestinian people establish their Palestinian state), the PLO signalled its readiness to partition Palestine and coexist with an Israeli state within the 1967 borders — but only if the Palestinians' right to self-determination and statehood were recognised in the one-quarter of Palestine that was to revert to Palestinian control.

There may be another problem, however, which is rather more tricky. There may be some Palestinians who object to being coerced into a bilateral political accord with Jordan, at a time when the PLO has been fighting a contracted and violent battle to remain out of the grips of Syria. Why, some people ask, should the PLO jump out of Syria's arms only to land into Jordan's lap? It is a difficult and awkward question.

The answer, presumably, goes something like this: By formulating a joint Jordanian-Palestinian position, and securing pan-Arab support for it, the PLO might have its first ever chance of halting the Israeli colonisation of the occupied territories, engaging the United States in a serious dialogue, and entering into negotiations that might result in an international agreement on Palestinian self-determination. There are quite a few "might" in that answer, to be sure, but that is the hard political rule when your enemy has beaten you badly and the onus is on you to come up with a new peace strategy.

Life is tough, but this is not a debate about life. It is a debate about how to make political progress where there has been only political stagnation. My feeling is that both Jordan and the PLO give too much importance to the letter of 242, like theory-dazzled political science professors discussing the philosophy of science while bullets are smashing into their legs and crippling them.

What is more important, and politically relevant, is to figure out a means of having the Israelis (and the world's Jews and others who support Israel) take you seriously. The assumption that this has to be done by passing through Washington seems to me seriously flawed, emotionally humiliating, politically servile, and historically

hazy. I have recently re-read King Hussein's speech to the PNC, and still feel, as I did when he first delivered it, that among its most important words are the following: "It will be good to remember that there is no place for slogans if they are turned into constraints preventing motion or manoeuvre. There is no need for principles if they do not serve as guides to action."

The crucial objective now is to breathe some life into Arab diplomacy, and to clarify to ourselves, and to international and Israeli parties, the substance of our willingness to make peace. If there is a counter-willingness for peace in Israel, it can only be activated by a clear Arab position, built upon an equally clear statement of the PLO's terms for peace.

This can best be done by a pan-Arab agreement on peace principles, that could be reciprocated by political movements within Israel that are equally determined to coexist in peace with Palestinian and other Arab states. If no such possibility for honourable peace exists, then let us draw the logical conclusions, and prepare either for surrender, or war. But to drift endlessly in a fantasy world of immobilising slogans is a disgraceful performance from an Arab World that once generated truth and glory, and should be capable of doing so again.

I have recently re-read King Hussein's speech to the PNC, and still feel, as I did when he first delivered it, that among its most important words are the following: "It will be good to remember that there is no place for slogans if they are turned into constraints preventing motion or manoeuvre. There is no need for principles if they do not serve as guides to action."

Six world leaders warn against arms race

LEADERS of six non-nuclear countries representing various parts of the globe held a meeting in New Delhi late January. The meeting, sponsored and chaired by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, was also attended by Argentine President Raul Alfonsín, Mexican president Miguel de la Madrid, Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu, and Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme.

In a joint declaration, the leaders of the six countries urged the peoples, parliaments, and governments of the world to take immediate steps to halt the nuclear arms race. They welcomed the recent agreement reached by the Soviet Union and the United States in Geneva recently to hold talks on all problems of space and nuclear armaments and had praise for the proclaimed goal of these talks: Preventing an arms race in outer space, stopping it on the earth, and, in the final count, eliminating nuclear weapons altogether.

The New Delhi declaration, noted Rajiv Gandhi, calls for the nuclear and non-nuclear powers to exert every effort to prevent a

thermonuclear catastrophe, for it would endanger the entire world. The Indian prime minister spoke highly of the Soviet Union's response to the previous joint declaration to the six countries of May 22, 1984. Then the six called for completely ceasing the development, manufacture, and deployment of nuclear weapons and their delivery vehicles, freezing the nuclear arsenals, and starting their reduction. Rajiv Gandhi recalled that the Soviet Union is the only nuclear power to have positively responded to this address.

The Soviet government noted in its statement on the May address that the Soviet Union had advanced a "practical programme of measures of freezing nuclear armaments. The Soviet leaders stressed their support of the six leaders' view that nuclear war cannot be admitted in any form. The Soviet Union's foreign policy and military doctrine are pursuing this very goal. All nuclear powers must renounce first use of nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union has already done it. The other nuclear powers must guarantee that they will not use nuclear weapons against the countries that do not have such weapons on their territory.

The Soviet Union has also taken a commitment on this score and is prepared to seal it by a treaty. It is significant not to spread the nuclear arms race to new spheres. Weapons of any types must not be placed in outer space. The Soviet Union has put forward specific proposals on this subject.

According to the Indian newspaper The Statesman, the New Delhi Declaration reflects the concern of people throughout the world over the growing threat of nuclear war. It follows up the basic provisions of the May address and highlights two issues which, in its authors' opinion, have become especially urgent. These are preventing an arms race in outer space and signing a treaty banning all nuclear tests.

The sections of the New Delhi Declaration dealing with these issues have met with the broadest international response. "Outer space," runs the document, "must be used for the common good of mankind and not as a future battlefield." Therefore, it calls for banning the development, tests, manufacture, deployment, and use of all types of space weapons.

In the Hindustan Times' view, the New Delhi Declaration will

strengthen the anti-war and anti-nuclear movement on all continents and largely influence world public opinion. It may play a major part in mobilising the governments' political will necessary for overcoming numerous obstacles to peace. The U.N.-sponsored world disarmament campaign is a major element in mobilising this political will.

"Greece stands firmly for having all nuclear weapons removed from its territory," Andreas Papandreu said in New Delhi. "These weapons were stationed by the United States without parliament's approval. They are being controlled by the United States and not Greece."

Many analysts note that, though the New Delhi Declaration does not mention the sponsors of new rounds of the nuclear arms race, the world public increasingly understands who are responsible for the mounting military threat.

During the New Delhi conference a correspondent of an American TV network expressed surprise that the leaders of the six nations had attached such vast importance to non-militarisation of outer space though Washington had assured that its Star Wars pro-

gramme was "purely defensive".

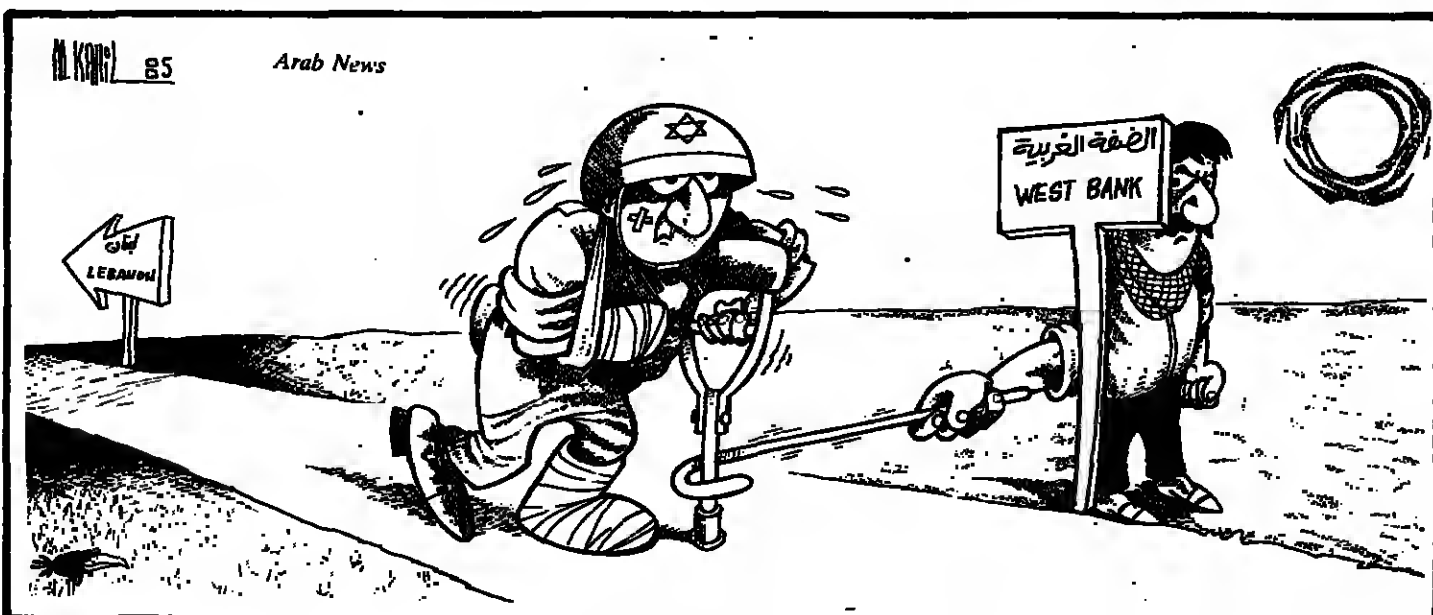
I must say few people believe this," answered the Indian prime minister. "We heard similar arguments before when submarines with nuclear warheads aboard, cruise missiles, and other latest weapons were being developed. But each time it only resulted in the escalation of the arms race and the growing war threat. Disarmament and elimination of nuclear and other weapons is the solely true way towards security."

The ideas and proposals of the New Delhi Declaration were unanimously backed in Athens where a meeting of prominent politicians and public figures of the East and the West was held with the participation of Greek, Swedish, Tanzanian, and Argentine leaders.

The broad international response given to the New Delhi Declaration showed that different streams are merging to jointly oppose the nuclear threat. The peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist community are being accompanied by the upsurge of the anti-war and anti-nuclear movement, which was testified by the "Third World Conference on Disarmament and Detente" in

Vienna. Besides, non-aligned and neutral nations are playing an ever more active part on the international scene, which was clearly shown by the New Delhi meeting. Like the Vienna documents, the New Delhi Declaration revealed the growing understanding by the international public of the fact that, while resolutely opposing the Star Wars programme, the Soviet Union concerns are not only for its own security but also for the future of the planet, believing that preventing militarisation of outer space has become a common task of all mankind.

"The peoples and their governments are resolutely speaking out in favour of a healthier international situation, halting the arms race, ensuring a peaceful outer space, and removing nuclear weapons from the face of the earth," Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko pointed out in his answers to questions by a CNN correspondent. "Just recently this was rightly and forcefully stated by the heads of state and government of India, Mexico, Sweden, Tanzania, Argentina and Greece in a declaration in New Delhi" he stressed — Pravda.



Downing cruises is a close possibility

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

LONDON (R) — Western defence officials say the day will soon arrive when computer-guided cruise missiles — now almost unstoppable — can be knocked from the sky.

Defence analysts say, however, that the cost of an effective screen against small, nuclear-tipped cruise missiles could be prohibitive, unless strict limits on their deployment are agreed with the Soviet Union.

NATO is in the process of deploying 464 U.S. medium-range nuclear cruise missiles in Britain, Belgium, West Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. Worldwide, the U.S. military has about 1,000 air-launched models, and wants a total of several thousand air and sea-based versions.

The Soviet Union's cruise weapons are generally shorter in range and of an older vintage. It is working to catch up.

Simultaneously, the superpowers have been building up defences against cruise weapons. In contrast to ballistic missiles, which fly in an arc like an artillery shell, cruise missiles are like unmanned jet planes, flying at subsonic speed.

Jet interceptors can match their speed, but the problem is in detecting them. Cruises carry computers with a pre-programmed "map" that enables them to skim the earth, zigging and zagging as low as 15 metres to elude ground-based radars.

President Reagan has proposed a Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) aimed at creating weapons such as lasers which could destroy ballistic missiles in flight. But Western analysts say SDI defences would be unlikely to work against the much smaller, elusive cruise missiles.

Yet, while deployment of SDI systems could be many years away, an anti-cruise defence is less

technologically daunting. NATO officials say the superpowers are perfecting a "look-down, shoot-down" ability — the ability of radar on a fighter plane to distinguish cruises or planes from ground objects below, allowing jet-fired rockets to destroy the target.

Lord Lewin, former chief of Britain's Defence Staff, wrote in the London Times last week that Moscow might be able to shoot down a "very substantial" proportion of attacking cruise missiles by the mid-1990s. Other analysts say cruises might be foiled by devices to jam their delicate guidance systems.

Moscow has built up a huge air defence system which is now undergoing a major overhaul to meet the cruise threat, NATO officials say. Over 50 advanced "Foxhound" jets with look-down, shoot-down ability are now oper-

ating, according to the Pentagon. U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, echoing a report in a British newspaper, said on Jan. 31 that Soviet jets had downed a Soviet jet that went astray over Finland. The Pentagon quickly corrected him and said the missile had crashed in the Dec. 28 incident rather than being shot down.

A Pentagon spokesman said: "What Weinberger meant was 'if they had shot it down, we should not have been surprised.' The Soviet military stepped up testing of its anti-cruise defences last summer, according to Western officials in Moscow.

The Pentagon says U.S. forces are over-able to shoot down cruise missiles in flight but hope to be able to do so soon. It says the United States can attack cruise-carrying Soviet bombers and submarines before the missiles are fired.

Did Sharon speak the truth, nothing but truth?

WHETHER OR not Time magazine defamed Sharon was up to the New York jury to decide, and it carried out its duty according to the law. So be it.

On the other hand, whether or not Sharon was being honest when he told the jury that he didn't have the "slightest idea" that Lebanese Falangist militiamen — whom he allowed into the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila — would commit a massacre, is a point on which anyone has the right to his own opinion.

To form our own, we took another look at what Israel's officially-authorised Kahan Commission, which published its detailed report on the massacre in February 1983, said about Sharon.

It appears from the text that the commission found it difficult to accept Sharon's explanation — similar to the one he gave in New York — as to why he let the militiamen into the camps.

"Defence Minister Sharon adopted the position that no one had imagined that the Falangists would carry out a massacre in the camps and that it was a tragedy that could not be foreseen," the commission's report said. But it then added that "in our view... it is impossible to justify the minister of defence's disregard of the danger of a massacre."

What bothered the commission, the report said, was its belief that Sharon should have known that Falangist soldiers on previous occasions had in fact committed atrocities (as had many other factions during the Lebanese civil war), and that he also should have known that the Falangist militia was particularly stirred up by the assassination of Lebanon's President Bashir Gemayel, which took place only days before the massacre.

The commission argued: "No

prophetic powers were required to know that concrete danger of acts of slaughter existed when the Falangists were moved into the camps... The sense of such danger should have been in the consciousness of every knowledgeable person who was close to this subject, and certainly in the consciousness of the defence minister, who took an active part in everything relating to the war. His involvement in the war was deep, and the connection with the Falangists was under his constant care."

What we found strange about the report, however, was its conclusion that Sharon should have known about the dangers, but actually did not. To us, it doesn't seem reasonable that a tough, streetwise, battle-hardened, 54-year-old career soldier like Sharon, who was "smart" enough to become a general and then defence minister of Israel, should have been so naive as not to realise that the militia entering the camps might well commit a massacre — especially since the commission cited evidence that others had warned him that it might be the case.

This is where we part company with the commission, which viewed Sharon's statements that he hadn't had even the "slightest idea" that there could be a massacre at Sabra and Shatila as evidence of inexcusable incompetence, but chose to believe that he was telling the truth. We don't know for sure, of course, that he was not. We know of no secret appendix A.B. or C that will specifically support our doubts on that score. But we do believe in plain common sense, which tells us that Ariel Sharon can't really be that dumb. — Middle East Focus.

Middle East Focus is published in Washington by the National Association of Arab Americans.

UNICEF prepares for a tough year

By Michael Duggan

Reuter

COPENHAGEN — The wave of famine and disease sweeping sub-Saharan Africa has sent ripples all the way to a vast warehouse on Copenhagen's often fog-bound waterfront which acts as a drugstore to children of the world.

The warehouse is the headquarters of UNIPAC, supply arm of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), which is steeling itself for a tough year in 1985.

The mounting African drought and the disease it spawns are part of the reason. Recently, UNIPAC has rushed 16 plane-loads of medicine and other emergency equipment to drought areas.

Director Bent Rasmussen said turnover at the Copenhagen Centre would almost double this year to \$70 million from around \$36 million last year, straining the 200 staff from 21 countries who struggle to meet ever-rising demand from developing countries for UNIPAC's services.

UNIPAC began in 1953 with the assembly of midwife kits in a basement room of the U.N. building in New York. It moved nine years later to Denmark and last autumn opened its new Copenhagen Centre, built by the Danish government at a cost of eight million dollars.

In an area the size of three football fields, on racks so high that forklift trucks need television cameras to see their way, UNIPAC keeps up to 20 million dollars' worth of stock from its list of 50,000 items.

Apart from drugs to fight sickness, there are kerosene fridges to keep vaccines fresh in the tropical bush, boxes of soap, potato peelers, garden tools, hospital and classroom equipment and even jigsaw puzzles and baby dolls — all that is required to succour children in a hostile environment.

UNICEF figures show how hostile it can be: 40,000 children throughout the world die from preventable causes every day.

Many of the deaths are due to bad hygiene through lack of clean water and shortages of cheap medicines to combat resulting disease, according to UNICEF.

A mere five dollars will immunise a child against six of the most common and dangerous childhood diseases: diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, polio and tuberculosis.

But only one in five of the 100 million children born each year in the developing world are vaccinated against all or most of these diseases.

Four million young children die each year because they are dehydrated from diarrhoea. Most could be saved by drinking a simple liquid containing sugar and salts.

UNICEF was originally founded by the U.N. in 1946 to help children in 14 European countries devastated by World War II. It was later turned into a permanent body for the whole world.

Ninety per cent of the items purchased by its UNIPAC arm in Copenhagen are used on long-term health, water and nutrition projects rather than in response to sudden crisis.

UNIPAC has 15 officers who scour the world for suppliers and who buy in bulk. This generally means a 30 per cent discount which helps governments of developing countries which are allowed to purchase essential items through UNIPAC.

A major cause of the increase in demand from UNIPAC is that more countries want to buy from it.

Also significant was the adoption last year by the World Health Organisation and UNICEF of an essential drugs list.

This outlines about 80 basic drugs — from aspirin to oral dehydration salts — which developing countries are encouraged to stock as a basis for their medical networks.

In 1983 UNIPAC, with funding of \$10 million from the Danish government, began a three-year

scheme to build up stocks of essential drugs in Tanzania. Mr. Rasmussen said the success of this project made other countries interested in similar schemes.

Algeria is talking to UNIPAC about starting an essential drugs programme possibly costing up to \$50 million.

Nigeria also called for UNIPAC help last year when it faced a critical shortage of essential drugs in its hospitals.

"The real problem is that there are not enough funds available to cover all needs," Mr. Rasmussen said.

World recession is making matters worse. A 1984 UNICEF report showed recession was hitting the income of developing countries badly and poorest mothers and young children were the most vulnerable group when food became scarce.

For drought-hit Africa, U.N. member countries are widely expected to pledge extra aid at a meeting of U.N. agencies in New York later this month.



Two mothers and two children wait for food and medicine at UNICEF camp at Kordofan.

UNIPAC officials agree this victims — and could mean an even snowier Copenhagen in coping with would be good news for drought heavier load for UNIPAC staff in demand for supplies.

Ethiopian, Chadian refugees: long walk to the neighbouring frying pan

Hundreds of thousands of starving refugees from Ethiopia and Chad are pouring into the Sudan. Millions of Sudanese are suffering from drought. Earthscan explains why relief has been slow to arrive.

By Lloyd Timberlake

LONDON — Hundreds of thousands of refugees are pouring across two borders into the Sudan, a nation beset by drought, civil war and a government struggling for survival.

The United Nations was left behind in this mounting disaster, trapped between its own rules and a Sudanese government unwilling to admit the enormity of the crisis.

This is the picture emerging from accounts of relief workers and U.N. and Western government aid agency officials recently returned from the Sudan. Few wished to be identified, as their organisations will have to continue working closely with the Sudanese government for many months to come.

Since last November, 200,000 new Ethiopian refugees have joined 480,000 already in the country. Some 100,000 people have entered western Sudan from Chad. The number of Ugandans, 1 the south has risen from 200,000 to 250,000, but this is more the result of a new count than new people. The 5,000 refugees from Zaïre have been there for years.

The Sudanese drought did not develop over three years, as did highland Ethiopia's. The September rains simply did not come in 1984; after adequate rains in the past few years. One U.N. official estimates that only 5 per cent of the usual "rainfed" (unirrigated) harvest was gathered. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) reckons that the Sudan is 943,000 tonnes short of its annual needs: that is about one third of the grain required.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) team in the Sudan — along with volunteer relief and aid agencies — saw the looming tragedy in October. But the UNHCR is not a food supply programme: it normally relies on the U.N.'s World Food Programme (WFP), which was and is having difficulties getting enough grain for Ethiopia and other afflicted African nations.

Though UNHCR knew hundreds of thousands were on the way from Eritrea and Tigray (it had been warned by relief agencies working in both areas), it cannot by its own rules appeal for food for refugees who have not yet arrived.

"It would be seen to be drawing people out," said one relief worker. "The Ethiopian government, and its allies, would be furious. Besides, how could they?" (UNHCR) stockpile food in eastern Sudan in November when the world was concentrating on the six million facing death by starvation in Ethiopia.

Finally, Sudan did not appeal for drought relief for its own people until early January 1985. And the government discouraged journalists from writing about the shanty towns growing around Khartoum and the Nile-side town of Kosti, filled with hungry Sudanese from the drought-stricken western provinces of Kordofan and Darfur.

"Relief agencies have a hard time appealing for food when a government is not admitting a problem," said one relief agency official. "The donor governments get confused, and when they get confused, they do not act." This is where the U.N. system breaks down — when a government maintains there is no emergency," said Richard Copeland, disasters coordinator of the British-based OXFAM agency.

Today, between 1,000 to 4,000 people walk into eastern Sudan daily from Ethiopia, and estimates of those expected over the next few months range from 300,000 to 600,000. (Strangely, most of the Western press attention has focused on the 2,000-4,000 Ethiopian Jews in the Sudan.)

Though conditions vary greatly from one refugee camp to another, one UNHCR official said that in the new camps along a river south of Gedaref people are getting 300 grams of cereal a day, the "minimum" requirement is 400 grams. The daytime temperature in the camps has been around 49 degrees centigrade, and this is not yet the hot season. It is bitterly cold at night.

Death tolls are impossible to estimate, but the big camps are beginning to be surrounded by big cemeteries. Copeland described how he saw 14 children die of measles — complicated by malnourishment — between dawn and 7:30 a.m. in late December at Wad Sherife, a camp which held 4,000 Eritreans in May and holds 50,000 today.

"The bottom line is that we are not getting the money we need," said Michel Barton of UNHCR's main office in Geneva. "We are a tool of governments; they have given us a job but no way of carrying it out. There is a growing feeling of exasperation here at UNHCR."

"We are having to appeal for food directly. This is not our job. We have no expertise in it," he added. UNHCR cannot buy grain locally, as local prices are already four times those of the world market, and big purchases would drive prices higher.

The Sudan "has only one port, one railroad, one road," said a relief worker. While enough grain is arriving at Port Sudan to feed the refugees for about three months, it must be got to the camps. There are not enough planes, or enough room on them to fly it in, as each must "carry enough fuel" for the return flight. Thus the planes are carrying mostly vaccines, tents and blankets.

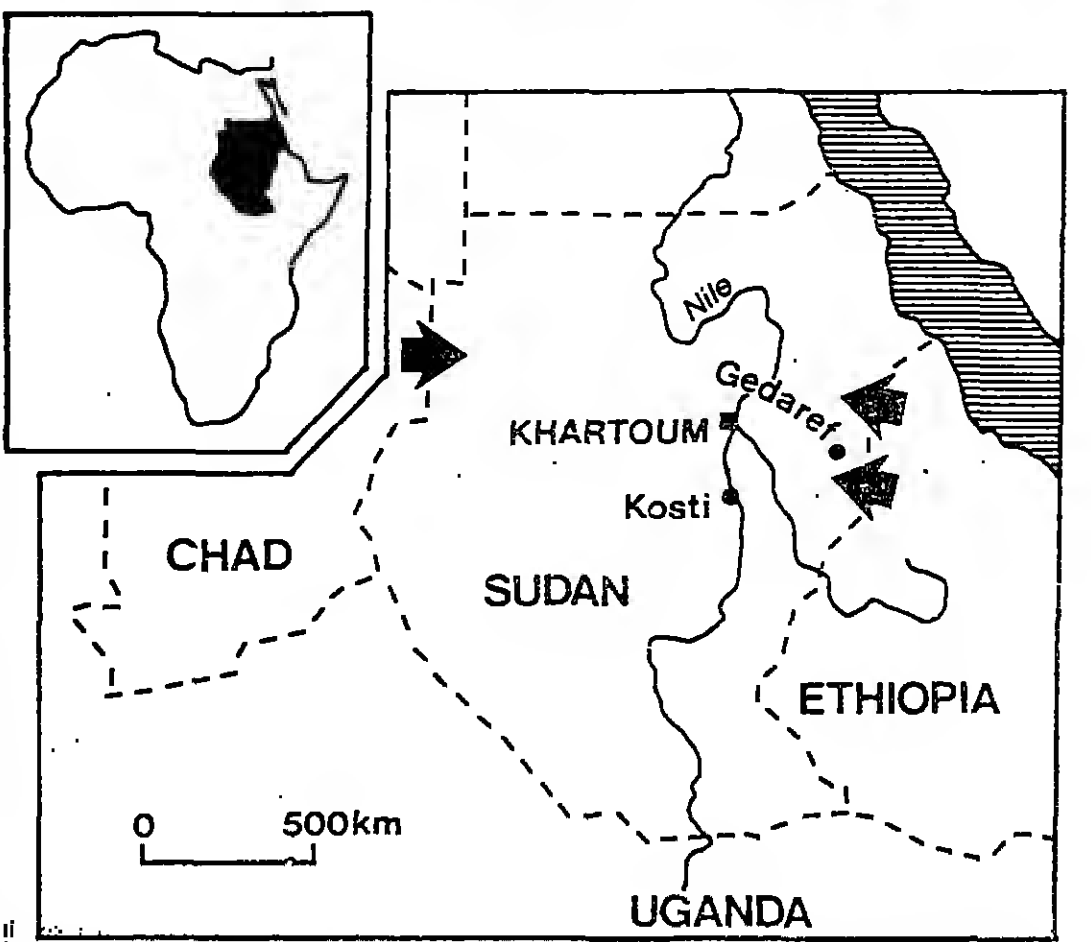
Aid agencies have praised the Sudanese government for not hindering their work; they are not surprised that the government has been little help with the refugee problem.

Aid agencies estimate that 4.5 million of Sudan's own 21 million people are directly affected by drought. The New York Times quoted President Numeiri as saying: "If all two million (refugees) left, it would be good for Sudan. For while they are here, we must feed and protect them." (UNHCR puts Sudan's refugee total at slightly over one million.)

The civil war of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has spread into Equatoria province, forcing the evacuation of foreign nationals. Work on the Jonglei Canal, meant to shorten the Nile's course through the world's biggest swamp, remains halted; oil exploration has stopped. Sudan's external debt is running at least seven times its export earnings, and the International Monetary Fund has halted disbursements.

Mr. Numeiri's "Islamisation" policy continues to cause discord, even in the Muslim north. The execution on Jan. 18 of a religious leader opposed to this policy is seen by observers as a last-ditch attempt (by Mr. Numeiri) to regain control over a hostile, population and a country whose crisis deepens daily," according to The Times newspaper of London.

The refugees are caught in that agricultural, military and political crisis; as it deepens, the relief and aid agencies will have a harder and harder time keeping the people of the camps alive — Earthscan feature.



Beating the system on Warsaw's private market

By Irena Czarkowska

Reuter

WARSAW — In a society of austerity and hardship, Warsaw's Rozycki Market, known in Polish as the Bazaar, thrives as a place to make money and beat shortages in numerous devious but lively ways.

It lies across Warsaw's oldest bridge in the Praga, a district long associated with petty crime and, as one Pole said, "dubious morals". The expression "beyond the river" has connotations of a murky underworld.

Black marketeers and prostitutes operate here, alongside "Spekulant", often attacked in the press for buying up scarce items in state shops and selling them at vastly inflated prices.

In a nearby street, a taxi driver boasts: "You can buy anything at any time of day or night". With perhaps a touch of Polish exaggeration, he adds: "The police are afraid to come here after dark. They'd get beaten up. During Solidarity the streets were barricaded and this area was really thriving."

Other Poles with a sense of drama warn visitors not to venture into the Rozycki "without at least two bodyguards". But on a weekday morning only the thawing snow and jostling people hinder progress through the Bazaar, which dates from before World War II.

A card trickster is deftly switching three small circular pieces

while five or six men in cloth caps pack tightly round him to bet on which disc has a cross marked underneath.

Banknotes change hands and suddenly, with an agility that would put a pickpocket to shame, the man has taken his pieces and disappeared into the crowd just as two policemen push in.

They throw away his board and the crowd disperses. Hardly have they gone when the game — known as "three kings" because it is often played with cards — begins with renewed enthusiasm.

A stand nearby is blaring out pirated Western rock and disco music and stacked in a corner are pirate video tapes of Clint Eastwood movies and Swedish pornography. The videos fetch about \$100 at the official exchange rate.

Another stall specialises in sew-on brand name labels and buttons from Western jeans. A home-produced pair of denims with a Western label will fetch 10 times the normal price.

Plastic shopping bags, cigarette packets, shoes, clothing, chewing gum — anything gaudy with a recognisable Western name attracts the shoppers despite extortionate prices.

Unlike the Soviet authorities, who regularly attack Western influences, there seems to be no official condemnation in the Polish media.

Many items find their way into Poland through northern ports whose ships regularly ply West European harbours. Returning sailors know the local customs men and rely on them to allow the goods through, the man explains.

Nearby stands sell private farm produce and home-made goods. Mr. Franciszek, a cheerful man in his 60s whose grin reveals his missing teeth, has come from 100 kilometres away to sell his geese. Posing for a picture, he invites the photographer to join him for a bottle of vodka and a chat at his home some time.

Wrinkled women nearby cackle and encourage you to buy their jars of mayonnaise and honey.

pickled and dried mushrooms, butter and grated sausage salad served out of large barrels.

"Anyone with anything to sell comes here. As a Westerner now living in Poland said: 'Whatever is stolen in Warsaw eventually ends up on the Rozycki'."

Along the edge of the market, elderly men and women hover, holding out bars of chocolate, packets of German dried soup and cake mix — sometimes items which relatives abroad have sent.

For the right price you can also buy goods impossible to find elsewhere, such as fox furs, handmade wedding dresses and Turkish sheepskin coats, which tourists bring in.

Ducks and flamingos struggle for survival in Southern France

By Bruce Alderman

Reuter

LES SAINTES MARIES DE LA MER, France — A rare spell of Arctic winter weather has wreaked havoc among the flamingos and ducks of the Camargue Nature Park in southern France, one of Europe's biggest bird and wildlife refuges.

Nearly 3,000 flamingos and two thirds of the duck population perished in last month's freeze. Now scientists at the park say the survivors, many of which were injured searching for food, face more danger as the new hunting season gets under way.

Although the pink flamingo is protected by law, thousands of mallards and other species, thin and weak from the bitterly cold weather, may literally become sitting ducks for hunters.

Located in a large triangle in the south of France, the Camargue is a mosaic of protected reserves, private hunting estates and small villages.

Along with nearby areas it has become a major refuge for migratory birds such as herons, egrets, pink flamingos and ducks because of the usually mild winters and availability of water.

Ducks, in particular, are endangered, says Alain Dervieux, technician at the park's research centre. "The ducks need time to

replenish the fat reserves they lost during the cold."

Scientists using helicopters and photographic aids have seen unable to account for 50,000 ducks in an area which is the winter home of 70,000 eastern and central European ducks.

"It's difficult to say how many of them have died," Mr. Dervieux noted.

The frozen lagoons deprived the ducks and other birds of their only food source, aquatic plants and insects.

Nearly 3,000 dead flamingos have been collected and sent to the tour Du Valat Research Centre in the Camargue.

"The birds have been sexed, aged, measured for wing and leg

length," said British ornithologist Alan Johnson.

"We also took a measure of fat content or should I say lack of fat, because all the birds which died were extremely thin."

During the cold wave that struck most of Europe last month, 1,000 flamingos were brought into makeshift hospitals and an estimated 9,000 others were fed by hand.

"Had we not done this, 80 per cent of the population (in France) would have died," said Bruno Colomb, one of the rescue's coordinators.

In addition to a lack of food, flamingos also suffered injuries to their long, wobbly legs. By early February, a dozen birds remained

in a care centre where their legs are bandaged.

Unlike other large birds in the area such as the egret and the heron, the flamingos panicked when they failed to find food. Instead of waiting for the ice to thaw, Mr. Colomb said, they wasted precious energy by taking flight in search of water. Some were found as far afield as Marseilles and Corsica.

The flamingo and duck were not the only creatures to be hit. Eighty per cent of cattle egrets, warblers and little egrets were killed, as were a large number of mullet.

At the same time, researchers noticed more buzzards and other predatory birds in the area. "The cold pushed them further south," said Mr. Dervieux. "They certainly profited from the cold."

Flamingo experts are not totally pessimistic. "The only way this can turn catastrophic," said one, "is if you have a series of bad breeding seasons and a series of winters with high mortality."

But the scientists say they will be carefully watching the next breeding season to see if the flamingos and other birds will be healthy enough to reproduce — a first indication of whether the cold snap has had long-term effects.

TIME

AVENGING A PRIEST'S MURDER (Killer sentenced to 25 years in prison)

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Applicants must:

- Have Arabic as their main language (main language is to be understood as the language into which the candidate is best able to translate);
- Have a perfect command of Arabic and either English or French and be able to interpret into both languages claimed, or a perfect command of Arabic and a strong knowledge of two of the other official languages of the United Nations, one of which must be English or French. Such candidates must be able to interpret from both passive languages claimed into Arabic.
- Hold a degree from a university or institution of equivalent status;
- Have 200 days of experience as conference interpreters for which they must furnish documentary proof when they submit their applications.

Interpreters are normally offered an initial 2 year fixed-term appointment at the P-2 level. If these initial two years of service are satisfactory they may be promoted to the P-3 level and given a probationary appointment. Fully qualified interpreters may be recruited at the journeyman level (P-3) among candidates having several years of internationally recognised professional interpreting experience. Interpreters are expected to serve a minimum period of five years in a language post.

Starting gross base salary \$24,233 per annum plus post adjustment (\$8,747 net per annum at present but subject to change) and family allowances. Further information and application forms may be obtained from:

UNDP Office
Near Shmelsani Maternity Hospital
Shmelsani - Amman.
P.O. Box 35286
Tel. 668171 - 72

The deadline for receipt of completed application forms is 24 February 1985.

Navratilova struggles past Lundqvist in players tennis

DELRAY BEACH, Florida (R) — Top-seeded Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert Lloyd and Mats Wilander overcame tough opponents to reach the quarterfinals of the \$1.8 million International Players Tennis Championships.

Navratilova struggled past Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 — the first time in four matches she has dropped a set in the tournament.

She had service trouble most of the way as Lundqvist, 13th in world rankings, kept returning for winners. Navratilova twice broke Lundqvist's service in the final set and served for the match at 5-2.

Lundqvist however broke back and held for 5-4 and then crashed a Navratilova match point in the tenth game.

But Navratilova came from deuce with a service winner for a second match point and Lundqvist netted a service return to end the threat to the world's number one player.

Navratilova said she wasn't surprised the match went three sets. "I don't go into a match expecting to lose but I could have lost this one," she said. It was just one of those days.

"I enjoyed the match but I don't know if she did," Lundqvist said.

The second-seeded Wilander beat Robert Green of the U.S.,

6-3, 4-6, 6-4 after Green, ranked 44th, squandered a 4-1 lead in the final set. Evert Lloyd, seeded second behind Martina Navratilova, dispatched countrywoman Kathy Jordan 6-4, 6-1.

"Maybe he got a little nervous," said Wilander of Green. "He didn't know how to end the match."

Jordan beat Evert Lloyd the last time they played at Eastbourne last year and also defeated her in the third round at Wimbledon in 1983. "Chris played the best she ever has against me," Jordan said. "She had a good variety of passing shots. Since I had trouble getting to the net I couldn't do anything."

Three double faults by Green in the seventh game of the last set proved costly against Wilander who won the last five games of the match.

Arias fell to Mike Leach of the U.S. 7-6, 6-3, dropping the tie-breaker 9-7 after holding a 6-3 lead. Leach then won the last three games of the match, with the only service break of the set proving decisive.

Baumann upstages Gross

BONN (R) — West Germany's record-breaking swimmer Michael Gross was upstaged by Canada's double Olympic champion Alex Baumann on the final day of the Bonn swimming festival Sunday.

Gross set world best 25-metre pool times over 800 metres freestyle and 200 metres butterfly on Friday and Saturday but failed to complete a hat-trick in the 100 metres butterfly.

Baumann, chosen world swimmer of 1984 after winning both individual medley titles in the Los Angeles Olympics, came within an ace of beating his own world best mark in the 200 metres medley. His time of one minute 58.81

seconds was just three-tenths of a second outside that mark and was more than a second faster than any other swimmer has ever recorded.

The Canadian finished more than three seconds ahead of West Germany's Peter Berner who clocked a national best time of 2:02.15.

For Gross the exertions of four world best times in the previous eight days had clearly taken its toll in the 100 metres butterfly. For once his battle was not against the clock but with American Chris O'Neil who stayed with him all the way and even pushed in front on the last turn.

Kasparov takes time-out

MOSCOW (R) — Garry Kasparov, who was notched up three successive wins in his marathon battle to wrest the World Chess Championship from Soviet titleholder Anatoly Karpov, Monday declared a "time-out", postponing the next game until Monday.

Kasparov, 21, now trails world champion Anatoly Karpov, 33, by three games to five but recent victories have revived his challenge for the title, which goes to the first man to win six games.

Karpov was leading 4-0 within weeks of the match's opening last September but has not won a game since his fifth win on November 24.

The champion has complained that his concentration has been upset by an enforced change of venue from the prestige Hall of Columns in central Moscow to a hotel in the suburbs.

The management of the Hall of Columns, a regular venue for classical concerts and Communist Party meetings, said they could not allow the chess championship to disrupt their normal booking indefinitely.

Iraq defeats England's Forest

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's national team beat English first division soccer side Nottingham Forest 2-0 in a friendly match at the Al-Sha'ab (People's) stadium Monday.

Scorers: Natiq Hashem (14th minute) and Jamal Ali (63rd). Attendance: 70,000.

Spanish racer dies

GERONA, Spain (AP) — Spanish motorcycle racer Victor Palomo died of a heart attack in a hospital here Monday, hospital officials said. He was 36.

He was world water skiing champion in 1969 and European motorcycle racing champion in 1970.

Palomo was forced to retire in 1981 after an accident in the 24-hour motorcycle race in Barcelona that year.

Mexican heat will favour Latin American soccer teams

QUERETARO, Mexico (R) — European soccer coaches attending a series of friendly internationals in Mexico have warned that the mid-summer heat and high altitude will greatly favour Latin American teams at the 1986 World Cup finals — just as they did in 1970.

After two days of matches to mark the opening of the proposed World Cup stadium of Queretaro, international Soccer Federation (FIFA) officials and European coaches have warned that European teams will have to change their all-action style of play to survive.

"It's not the teams who fight back once they've lost the ball, but those who can hold onto it in the first place who will do best in next year's finals," said Switzerland trainer Paul Wolfberg.

His team, Bulgaria and Poland, have been providing the European opposition to Mexico in Queretaro, one of 12 stadiums — all more than 6,000 feet (1,828 metres) above sea level — in which the World Cup games will be played.

But, contrary to opinion in Eur-

ope, Wolfberg thinks the heat and not the shortage of oxygen will be the main problem for the 14 European teams due to qualify for next year's finals.

Last week, Switzerland played in Bogota, Colombia, at more than 8,000 feet (2,438 metres) and this week played two matches in two days in Queretaro at 6,000 feet (1,828 metres). "My players experienced no physical problems," said Wolfberg.

Neither did the Polish players — according to their team officials — although they were crushed 5-0 by Mexico in Queretaro.

The Swiss were also unable to justify their form rating, after some impressive results in Europe recently, managing only a narrow 2-1 win over a clumsy Mexican 'B' team.

More than the altitude, it was the heat about which both the Swiss and Polish players complained.

And, ominously, next year's World Cup matches will kick-off at noon and in mid-afternoon at the height of the Mexican summer when the temperature, especially in northern Mexico's deserts, can

easily rise beyond 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay, who are also used to the heat, will have an advantage next year, according to both Wolfberg and Mexico's Yugoslav trainer Bora Milutinovic.

"They said it would be particularly difficult for the north Europeans, the British or the Germans to adapt their rugged, hard-working styles to the Mexican conditions."

"Imagination is what is needed," said Wolfberg. "The teams with most imagination will conquer first the conditions and then their opponents."

Milutinovic, who says he is an excellent chess player, came to Mexico 13 years ago and is now the country's most respected coach.

FIFA's World Cup Organising Committee Chairman, Hermann Neuberger of West Germany, agrees that skill will win the day in the 1986 World Cup. He pointed to the victory of the magnificent Pele-inspired Brazil team last time Mexico staged the tournament in 1970 as evidence.

Walker edges nearer century

CHRISTCHURCH (R) — Former Olympic 1,500 metres champion John Walker of New Zealand ran his 98th sub-four minute mile at an athletics meeting in Christchurch Sunday night.

Walker, 1,500 metres champion at the 1976 Montreal Olympics and former world mile record-holder, clocked 3:56.30 and hopes to become the first man to run 100 sub-four minute times later this week.

He will be seeking his 99th at Wanganui, New Zealand on Wednesday and to complete his century on his home track in Auckland next Sunday.

Sebastian Coe of Britain, the 1980 and 1984 Olympic 1,500 metres champion, holds the current one mile world record with a time of 3:47.33.

Poland overwhelms Colombia

BOGOTA (R) — Poland, relying on quick counter-attacks, pierced twice through a static Colombian defence to win 2-1 a friendly soccer international here Sunday.

The Poles, who were trounced 5-0 by Mexico on the first leg of their Latin American tour, took the lead through a 5th minute goal when Andrzej Pakasz dribbled through a mesmerised defence to score from close range.

The host nation, cheered on by an estimated 25,000 crowd, equalised four minutes later when Asencio Cordoba headed home a ball sent from the left corner.

But Poland's superior technical skills and physical pressure paid off on the 34th minute when German Morales committed a costly mistake to leave Pakasz alone in the box.

The stocky left-winger did not miss the golden opportunity to ram the ball past goalkeeper Pedro Antonio Zape.

The match was part of Colombia's warm-up for their World Cup qualifying campaign which starts in May. On February 2, Colombia salvaged a 2-2 draw with Switzerland.

Ecuador beats E. Germany in friendly soccer match

QUITO (R) — Ecuador beat a strong East German side 3-2 Sunday night in a warm-up for the World Cup soccer qualifying rounds, avenging their defeat by a similar margin last Wednesday.

The visitors kept the Ecuadorians at bay in the first half, until in the 42nd minute forward Delandero Benitez, taking a pass, struck back five minutes later in the area, headed in the first goal.

Benitez scored again in the 59th off a pass by Baldeon, but Doschner scored for the East Germans in the 66th.

Maldonado scored from a penalty in the 81st minute, giving the home team their third. But the Ecuadorians then slackened off and the East Germans struck back five minutes later when Thon slammed home the final goal of the match.

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ASEAN ministers urge international support for Kampuchean rebels

BANGKOK, Thailand (Agencies) — The Association of South East Asian Nations urged the international community Monday to increase support for the Kampuchean resistance in its military and political struggle against Vietnam.

The call came in a joint statement by the six ASEAN foreign ministers holding a special two-day meeting here to discuss Kampuchea, where Vietnamese forces have been waging a three-month-old offensive against Kampuchean resistance groups along the Thai-Kampuchean border.

Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila, speaking with reporters, said the statement meant the ministers were calling for military aid from all friendly nations.

"Yes, I say yes. They need all kinds of military assistance. It's rather an open secret," Mr. Siddhi said. "Why not? The Soviet Union gives tanks and ammunition which allow the Vietnamese to remain in Kampuchea."

China is currently the major arms supplier for the three-party resistance Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CEDK), which includes the Khmer Rouge, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) and a group loyal to coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk. The United States and other Western nations have so far declined to provide military assistance.

The statement said the ministers were concerned over the "particular severity and scope" of the current Vietnamese offensive and Hanoi's "numerous incursions" into Thai territory. "Such actions contradict the professions of Vietnam for a negotiated solution," it said.

But the ministers said they were eager to begin a genuine dialogue on peacefully solving the Kampuchean issue and appointed Indonesian Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja to spearhead the effort.

The other ministers attending were Tengku Ahmad Rithauden of Malaysia, S. Dhanabalan of Singapore, Arturo M. Tolentino of the Philippines and Prince Mohammad Bolkiah of Brunei.

The seven-point statement said: "The foreign ministers reiterate their call to Vietnam to seek a political settlement on the basis of the total withdrawal of Vietnamese forces, national reconciliation among all Kampucheans, and the self-determination by the Kampuchean people."

The ministers also reiterated a call for direct dialogue between Vietnam and the coalition government — which is recognised by the United Nations — to arrive at a political settlement.

The ministers said that despite having to withstand "yet another massive military onslaught," the resistance forces remained intact and display "high morale."

But when asked at a news conference whether ASEAN members themselves would provide military aid, Siddhi and Rithauden declined to provide direct answers.

"So far we have made diplomatic and political efforts to support the CGDK (coalition)," Mr. Rithauden said.

Only Singapore among the ASEAN countries is known to have supplied some weapons to the coalition, funneling it to the non-Communists rather than the Communist Khmer Rouge. Thailand provides aid in a number of ways, including rights-of-passage for Chinese weapons through its territory.

Later Monday, the six ministers met with Prince Sihanouk, Khieu Samphan of the Khmer Rouge and KPNLF head Son Sann at the official residence of Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda. Mr. Prem told reporters it was essential the three groups "seek unity" and maintain their alliance.

The coalition came about despite deep-seated hostility between the two non-Communist groups and the Khmer Rouge, whose record while in power is one of the bloodiest of this century.

Meanwhile Kampuchean guerrillas said Monday they had killed and wounded at least 115 Vietnamese soldiers in several clashes along the Thai-Kampuchean border since early last month.

In a radio broadcast, the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF) said the latest clash took place Sunday four kilometres east of Nong Chan, one of the guerrilla camps attacked last November when Hanoi's troops began their dry-season offensive. Fifteen Vietnamese were reported killed in the fighting.

Independent confirmation of the guerrilla claim was not available.

Thai military sources said Monday fighting between Vietnamese forces and the Khmer Rouge raged near the major guerrilla stronghold at Phnom Malai but details were not known.

Pakistan to try 14 Sikh hijackers

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan will soon put on trial 14 Indian Sikhs who hijacked Indian planes to Lahore in 1981 and 1984, the government-owned Pakistan Times reported Monday.

The trial, which India has long demanded as a sign of good faith from Pakistan, should start some time next month, it said quoting official sources in Lahore.

A special court will be constituted to hear the cases, which have been a major irritant in Indian-Pakistan relations.

New Delhi has long accused Islamabad of supporting Sikh separatists in India's Punjab state and suspected that its failure to try the

Sikhs — while handing down death sentences to Pakistani hijackers — was another sign of this support.

India has also accused Pakistani Security Guards of slipping a gun to the nine Sikhs who commandeered a domestic Indian Airlines flight to Lahore last August. They flew on to Karachi and Dubai before giving up.

Pakistan has repeatedly denied the charges.

Pakistan President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq said in an interview published last month that his government had been overly cautious, trying to avoid a trial which could increase tensions between the two

rival neighbours.

He said the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi seemed to agree with him when he explained the reason for delaying the trial.

Gen. Zia, who said the hijackers would be tried soon, spoke soon after Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi accused Pakistan of insincerity in its claims to want to improve relations.

"We sometimes get the feeling Pakistan is not very serious about the whole thing," he told the Karachi daily Dawn. "Although you talk very much, your actions do not match your words. That sort of thing puts us in a bit of an awkward position."

W. German, Swiss police hold two for kidnapping

CHUR, Switzerland (R) — Swiss and West German police were holding two West Germans Monday who they say have confessed to kidnapping the grandson of prominent West German publisher Axel Springer last month.

Sven Axel Springer, 19, vanished from an exclusive Swiss boarding school on Jan. 21, and appeared at Zurich Airport three days later saying he had been kidnapped and released.

The prisoners are former pupils of the school, the Lycium Alpinum, a Swiss police statement said.

One was arrested in Munich, West Germany, last Friday when

he tried to collect money he was promised in return for helping Springer escape.

The other was detained on Saturday in the Swiss canton of Zurich.

Both have confessed to kidnapping Springer, whose grandfather owns Europe's largest-selling daily newspaper, Bild, police said.

A ransom of 15 million West German marks (\$5 million) was demanded but not paid.

Springer told police one of his captors gave him a gun and offered to help him escape in return for a promise of 200,000 marks (\$63,000).

Jaruzelski: Ties with U.S. worst for 66 years

NEW DELHI (R) — Poland's relations with the United States are at their lowest level since the two nations exchanged diplomats 66 years ago, Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski said in a newspaper interview Monday.

Gen. Jaruzelski, who arrived in India Monday for his first visit to a non-Communist nation since coming to power in 1981, said the U.S. was the driving force behind efforts to overthrow Poland's government by supporting extremists and propaganda.

"I should add that they (relations) are the worst since 1919 when both countries for the first time exchanged their diplomatic representatives," he told the Times of India.

In a wide-ranging review of Poland's internal affairs and foreign relations Gen. Jaruzelski said although recently there were some signs of "partial, secondary modifications" by the U.S., he failed to see any change in the general attitude towards Poland.

He said Poland's relations with the Soviet Union were of paramount importance and ties with Socialist nations were irreversible.

"By the way, I want to say frankly that the unfortunate flirt with the West in the 1970's gave Poland more losses than real advantages," Gen. Jaruzelski said.

Referring to jail sentences passed on four policemen for the murder of a pro-Solidarity priest, Gen. Jaruzelski said they were severely punished according to Polish law.

"It was an unprecedented act, aimed at hurting the progressing process of normalisation," he said.

"Thus, thinking in terms of objectivity, it was a political provocation. However, the scheme of a conflict between the state and the church failed."



Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu (second left) is pictured on arrival in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet government. Mr. Papandreu was met at the airport by Nikolai Tikhonov (second right) and Andrei Gromyko (right) — (AP Wirephoto)

13 Indian spy scandal suspects held

NEW DELHI (R) — Thirteen suspects in India's spy scandal, arrested with three others three weeks ago, were remanded in custody by a magistrate Monday until Feb. 22.

Press reports said confessions by 10 of the suspects linked France, East Germany, Poland and the Soviet Union to the leak of India's most sensitive secrets over the past 25 years.

But one suspect, H.N. Chaturvedi, petitioned the court to withdraw his confession, saying it was made under duress, the Press

Trust of India (PTI) said. Two other suspects have refused to confess.

The Hindu newspaper said the Indian government was taking a close look at the level of staff in diplomatic missions in New Delhi and other Indian cities.

"The antecedents of the staff of the embassies that have come in for adverse notice during the latest espionage scandal are being carefully scrutinised to identify the undesirable elements," it said.

The Hindu said the Soviet Union, with a diplomatic staff of

91 was the largest foreign mission in India, followed by the United States with 67, Britain with 58 and France with 36.

It said the government wanted to satisfy itself that "none of the bigger missions abuse their diplomatic privileges."

"The security procedures that are being tightened up at various levels... are being supplemented by matching steps to make it increasingly difficult for foreign diplomats to take undue advantage of India's open society for carrying out espionage," it added.

Vietnamese bay is now Soviet base, U.S. says

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The Soviet Union has transformed Cam Ranh Bay in Vietnam into a Soviet naval base with sizeable repair and auxiliary forces, a U.S. 7th Fleet spokesman said for the first time Monday.

The spokesman, who briefed reporters on the condition he not be identified, said the base is port for 26 Soviet ships and a number of submarines, minesweepers and Badger aircraft, capable of being launched for sea or air attacks.

The spokesman declined to speculate on Soviet reasons for building up the base but warned that the Soviet presence may imperil ships carrying oil from the Middle East which use the Strait of Malacca and the South China Sea.

The U.S. 7th Fleet is comprised of 75 ships, nine submarines, 400 tactical aircraft and 60,000 men operating in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

A U.S. embassy spokesman said it was the first time a 7th Fleet official has formally acknowledged a Soviet base at Cam Ranh Bay.

The fleet spokesman said he could give no concrete evidence for the existence of a Soviet naval base in Vietnam, but said that "over time, it has just become obvious" that the Soviet Union has "consistently and gradually" improved the site.

He said the base was being administered by the Soviets but that he could not say whether Vietnamese were operating it.

The Soviets are using an air field and permanent piers left behind by U.S. forces in the Vietnam War and have been building up the area since 1979, the spokesman said.

S. African police clash with protesting students

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African police fired rubber bullets and tear gas at about 3,000 black high school students who rampaged through a township Monday, setting houses and vehicles on fire, a police spokesman said.

He said the pupils poured onto the streets of Seeloville township in the Orange Free state province, about 200 kilometres south of Johannesburg, overturning vehicles and setting them on fire.

The spokesman said baton-wielding policemen charged the students after they burned a schoolmaster's house, the mayor's car and several shops.

He said there were no immediate reports of casualties or arrests in the incident, the latest in a series of protests by blacks against low educational standards.

More than 170 people, all but one of them black, were killed during unrest in 1984 when township residents demonstrated against poor living conditions.

Meanwhile Veteran 78-year-old anti-apartheid campaigner Helen Joseph was Monday convicted of demonstrating in a South African court by singing and giving a black power salute.

Joseph was fined 400 rand (\$200) and her lawyer said she and three other people convicted with her and fined the same amount intended to appeal.

The convictions were only the second under the Demonstration in Court Act of 1982 and followed an incident at the trial in September 1983 of Carl Niehaus and Johanna Laurens on high treason charges.

Genscher to make brief visit to Romania

BUCHAREST (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher begins a brief visit to Bucharest Tuesday which could help dispel bad feelings after the two countries expelled several of each other's diplomats last year.

Bonn expelled five Romanians after uncovering an alleged plot against the U.S.-funded Radio Free Europe in Munich and Bucharest retaliated by ordering out four West Germans.

West German sources here also said Mr. Genscher was seeking to put his country's relations with Eastern Europe generally back on the rails after reverses last year during which East German and Bulgarian leaders cancelled planned visits to West Germany. Mr. Genscher in turn put off a visit to Warsaw because of conditions set by the Polish government.

Romanian President Nicolae

Ceausescu did go ahead with a visit to Bonn last year but it was shortened and clouded by differences over protocol and no final communiqué was signed.

Mr. Genscher arrives on the heels of his NATO partner, British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe, and like him is expected to stress the seriousness of the West's commitment to a new East-West thaw, highlighted by next month's U.S.-Soviet arms talks in Geneva.

Sir Geoffrey met Romanian leaders at the weekend.

Mr. Genscher was due to arrive Tuesday evening and leave on Thursday for Vienna.

West German and Romanian officials played down the expulsion issue, which embarrassed both sides just weeks after the Ceausescu visit to Bonn.

The Romanians were ordered

Papandreu arrives in Moscow

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Greek Premier Andreas Papandreu arrived in Moscow Monday for a three-day official visit amid reports that he may meet with Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko, who has not been seen in public since Dec. 27.

Mr. Papandreu was greeted by Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, the official news agency TASS reported. It gave no other details of the visitor's arrival.

A spokeswoman for the Greek embassy here said "We cannot say anything now" when asked whether Mr. Papandreu would meet with Mr. Chernenko, who has reportedly been ill.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry official said he had no information when asked if Mr. Chernenko would see the visiting Socialist premier.

Mr. Papandreu will have two rounds of talks with Mr. Tikhonov, but his programme as detailed by the Athens government prior to his departure made no mention of a meeting with the Soviet leader.

Mr. Chernenko was reported last week to have addressed a weekly meeting of the ruling Politburo, but he has not been seen in public since appearing at an awards ceremony on Dec. 27. The 73-year-old leader is known to suffer emphysema and during his speech at the awards ceremony he had visible breathing difficulties.

In an article over the weekend, Rizospastis (radical) the Moscow-line Greek Communist Party (KKE) daily newspaper, said Mr. Papandreu would meet Mr. Chernenko on Tuesday afternoon.

The Greek premier, returning a visit by Mr. Tikhonov to Greece two years ago, will sign several economic agreements during the visit, but is not expected to sign the final contract for a 450 million-dollar alumina plant to be built in Greece with Soviet technical assistance, Greek officials said.

Diplomats said Moscow had been trying to cultivate ties with the government in Athens and the Soviet leadership would attach importance to a Papandreu-Chernenko meeting.

The Soviet media have led up to the visit, with praise of Mr. Papandreu's policies, particularly his opposition to the European deployment of new U.S. missiles by the NATO alliance, of which Greece is a member.

15 Sikh riot widows remarry

NEW DELHI (R) — Fifteen Sikh women, widowed in anti-Sikh riots after the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi last October, have remarried the Press Trust of India (PTI) said. It quoted officials at a Sikh temple in Delhi as saying the women had been provided with all that was necessary to start life again and that many Hindus had attended the mass wedding. A further 20 riot widows will be married later this week at a similar ceremony, they said. About 2,270 people, mostly Sikhs, were killed in riots after Mrs. Gandhi was murdered by two of her Sikh bodyguards.

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's chief rabbis have advised Jewish men they would violate ritual law by donating sperm for the artificial insemination of anyone but their wives. In notices published Sunday in the Israeli press, Rabbis Avraham Shapira and Mordechai Eliahu also warned Jewish women against using sperm banks to become pregnant. "It is forbidden for a Jewish woman to agree to medical treatment that entails artificial insemination from sperm from someone other than her husband," the rabbis said. They said women defying the edict would risk having their children classified as bastards in accordance with ritual law. "It isn't logical and human and it is unjust," said Liberal Party parliamentarian Sarah Doron. "I think the present situation must be maintained whereby any woman can fulfil her natural desire to become a mother."

Brothers relate adventures in Tibet.

PEKING (AP) — Greeted by monks blowing 3-metre mahogany horns, witness to gruesome sky burials and hospitalised in primitive conditions in Lhasa, two Americans told Saturday of bizarre adventures on a six-week tour of Tibet. John G. Norris, 32, and his brother Heath, 24, went to the mountainous region of China on a reconnaissance mission for a 1986 Sweden-China expedition to Mt. Everest. They described the base camp below the world's highest peak as a "junkyard" where previous climbers have jettisoned oxygen tanks, leftover supplies and equipment. The brothers travelled precipitous mountain roads and toured remote monasteries not normally open to tourists, they said in Peking before flying to Switzerland for treatment and rest. They told of visiting the flaying room and cave of scorpions in the torture chambers underneath the 13-story potala palace in Lhasa, former home of Tibet's Godkings, the Dalai Lamas. "In one underground room, about 1.2 metres by 1.2 metres, the only way a victim could live was to eat the rats before the rats ate him," said John, former adviser to the Chinese skiing team and now a teacher near Xigaze, Tibet's second largest city. Monks blew giant mahogany horns in greeting and showed them solid gold statues of Buddha, the brothers said.

World War II bomb defused

SHEFFIELD, England (AP) — Troops Saturday defused 1,000 kilogramme World War II bomb unearthed by construction workers 24 hours earlier. But officers said the bomb, one of the heaviest dropped by the Germans in the 1939-45 conflict, was still unstable and ordered 300 evacuated families to remain in community hall shelters. Army bomb disposal experts, after gingerly digging round 2-metre Herman-type bomb, removed the fuse Saturday afternoon. Army Maj. Alistair Craib said. In an evacuation reminiscent of the Nazi blitzes of British cities, families from nearby homes settled down to spend a second night on makeshift beds in community halls while troops deflected steam into the bomb. Craib said this would make it completely safe. "The fuse was in just about the most difficult place possible."

Craig told reporters in this northern England steel city. A workman driving a mechanical digger on a construction site near Sheffield's Bramhall Lane Soccer Stadium hit the bomb Friday. Driver Barry Holt made several attempts to scrape it up before the forces, an army veteran, realised it was a bomb.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

First Published by Goren, Inc.

DON'T GUESS — USE FINESSE

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ Q953
♥ 854
♦ K986
♣ A5

WEST
♠ 102
♥ Q102
♦ J72
♣ KQJ93

EAST
♠ J6
♥ KJ9
♦ A53
♣ 108642

SOUTH
♠ AK874
♥ A763
♦ Q104
♣ 7

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠
4 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Thumping lead: King of ♠.

The lucky player guesses right. The good player finds a way to avoid having to guess.

Not even the vulnerability is an excuse for West's overcall. After North had raised freely, South did not want to sound as if he was simply competing, so he chose the aggressive course and jumped to game at his second turn.

West led the king of clubs and, when dummy appeared, declarer

طراحی و چاپ